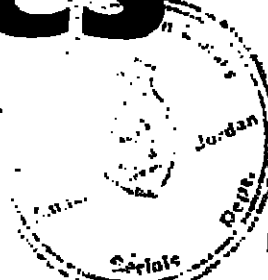


Top Gemayel aide meets Khaddam

BEIRUT (AP) — President Amin Gemayel sent one of his senior aides to Damascus Tuesday following sharp criticism by the official Syrian media of renewed fighting in and around Beirut (See page 2). Mr. Gemayel's adviser, Michel Samaha, met in Damascus Tuesday with Syrian Vice-President Abdul Halim Khaddam, who has been playing a key role in efforts to mediate an end to the nine-year-old Lebanese civil war. Details of the talks were not disclosed, but sources in Damascus and Beirut said Mr. Samaha could be preparing for a summit meeting between Mr. Gemayel and Syrian President Hafez Al Assad. The summit would be aimed at patching up splits among members of Lebanon's rival factions and end the repeated outbreaks of violence. The Syrian daily Al Baath, which is owned by Syria's ruling Baath Party, said in a front-page editorial Tuesday that renewed fighting in Lebanon is "unjustified and incomprehensible."

Jordan Times

An independent Arab political daily published by the Jordan Press Foundation
جوردان تايمز يومية سياسية مستقلة عن المؤسسة الصحفية الاردنية «الواي»



Bourguiba, Arafat due in Algiers

TUNIS (R) — Tunisian President Habib Bourguiba will go to Algiers Wednesday to attend the 30th anniversary celebrations of the start of the Algerian revolt against France, the presidential palace announced Tuesday. The 81-year-old president rarely travels abroad and his decision to attend the celebrations is seen as a sign of the close ties between Tunis and Algeria. The two countries signed a non-aggression pact in March 1983. Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) Chairman Yasser Arafat is also expected to attend the festivities along with heads of the major organisations in the body. PLO officials here say. Representatives of Mr. Arafat's dominant Fatah commando group are scheduled to meet members of the "democratic alliance" of Palestinian factions for last-minute talks on the thorny question of where to hold the Palestine National Council (PNC), the Palestinian parliament-in-exile.

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Price: Jordan 100 fils; Syria 1 pound; Lebanon 1 pound; Saudi Arabia 1.50 riyals; UAE 1.50 dirhams; Great Britain 25 pence

King receives N.Yemeni message

AMMAN (Petra) — His Majesty King Hussein has received a message from North Yemeni President Ali Abdullah Saleh dealing with the current Arab situation and Arab moves on the international arena. The message was delivered to Royal Court Chief Marwan Al Qasbi by North Yemeni Ambassador to Jordan Ali Abdullah Abu Lahum.

Hussein Bridge remains closed

AMMAN (Petra) — An official spokesman at the Public Security Department said Tuesday that the King Hussein Bridge remains closed for visitors of the West Bank and the Gaza Strip.

Turkish minister due on short stop-over

AMMAN (J.T.) — Turkish Foreign Minister Vahit Halesoglu is scheduled to make a short stop in Amman on a brief private visit to Jordan, a Turkish embassy spokesman told the Jordan Times. The spokesman said Mr. Halesoglu's visit was not official. However, he did not rule out the possibility of his meeting with Jordanian officials. He did not reveal Mr. Halesoglu's destination.

Frogmen find Polish priest's body in reservoir

WARSAW (R) — Frogmen found the body of kidnapped Warsaw priest, Father Jerzy Popieluszko, in a reservoir Tuesday, state television reported. Popieluszko, a militant anti-communist supporter of the banned Solidarity free trade union, vanished on Oct. 19 and was abducted by security police officers, according to a government spokesman, Jerzy Urban. The priest's body was found by divers using drag nets in a reservoir on the Vistula River in northern Poland.

Murphy due in Israel

TEL AVIV (R) — U.S. Assistant Secretary of State Richard Murphy was due in Israel Tuesday night for talks on withdrawing Israeli troops from southern Lebanon, which an Israeli official said could get the process moving. He said Mr. Murphy would spend Wednesday at the American embassy in Tel Aviv and hold talks with Israeli leaders on Thursday. Mr. Murphy has been in Saudi Arabia and is due to visit Damascus after Israel, the official said.

Israel rejects torture charges

TEL AVIV (R) — The Israeli military command Tuesday rejected charges of torture made by a Lebanese civilian recently released from the Israeli prison camp of Ansar in South Lebanon. The prisoner, Ahmad Salem, 22, told a news conference in Beirut Monday that his captors had beaten him on the hands, feet and genitals. Another former prisoner said he had been whipped.

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Hussein says he will visit Moscow soon for arms talks

KUWAIT (Agencies) — His Majesty King Hussein was quoted here Tuesday as saying he plans to visit the Soviet Union shortly to buy undisclosed types of weapons and discuss the Arab-Israeli conflict.

"We will not ask for arms from America, and will not accept arms under conditions," the King told Kuwaiti newspaper editors in a group interview conducted in Amman. "We will not accept any injury to the dignity of Jordan," he said.

King Hussein was obviously referring to Washington's reluctance to sell air defence missile batteries to Jordan. The King said he was "confident the U.S. and the Soviet Union will soon be able to transcend their differences and rebridge their efforts" on the Middle East issue.

Responding to a question, the King said he favoured an international conference on the Middle East crisis, with the participation of the Soviet Union, the United States, China, Britain and France.

"The U.S. has a major role to play in any effort to solve the (Middle East) problem, but that should only be conducted within the frameworks of the international community," he said.

He said the U.S. has "lost its credibility, has lost its ability to prove to us that she is even handed and neutral" between the Arabs and Israel.

"The United States is a partner and a strategic ally of Israel, and I don't see how she can be a peace-maker," he said. "That's the problem."

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anced relations with the superpowers.

He said that Jordan "will continue to deal with our European friends, mainly the United Kingdom and France, to plug defence loopholes, while trying to acquire whatever we can of Soviet arms."

Asked about Jordan's relations with the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO), King Hussein told the Kuwaiti editors that the Palestine National Council (PNC) was "welcome to convene its meeting here in Jordan."

The PNC, the Palestinian parliament-in-exile, has been trying to convene an emergency meeting in hopes of healing inter-Palestinian rift and giving PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat a mandate to pursue his efforts to solve the Middle East question jointly with Jordan.

"The PLO will have to remain free from any pressure," King Hussein said, referring to Syria which supports a dissident faction of Mr. Arafat's mainline commando Fatah and three other factions which call for the resignation of the PLO chairman.

In an interview with the London-based Ashraq Al Awsat the King said the PLO will have to be a major party to any solution to the Middle East conflict. "There will be no solution to the Palestine

question without the participation of the PLO," he told Ashraq Al Awsat.

Referring to Jordan's recent resumption of relations with Egypt, severed in 1979 after Cairo concluded a separate peace treaty with Israel, King Hussein dismissed criticism that Jordan had violated a 1978 Baghdad Arab summit resolution.

"In fact there was no resolution (to sever ties with Egypt.) There was only a recommendation submitted by the foreign ministers," he was quoted as saying. He also said that he had notified a number of Arab leaders well ahead of his decision to restore relations with Egypt.

The King said he did not strike a peace strategy with Egypt when President Hosni Mubarak visited Amman earlier this month. "But there was agreement on the need to convene an international conference to tackle the Middle East issue," he was quoted as saying.

Jordan was the first Arab state to resume ties with Egypt, ostracised from the Arab League because of its 1979 separate peace treaty with Israel.

King Hussein said that the Arab leaders had given him "mixed response" to his plans to rebuild ties with Egypt. He did not elaborate.

(Continued on page 3)

W. Bank protests continue

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM (Agencies) — Palestinians in the occupied West Bank threw stones at Israeli vehicles Tuesday in continuing protests at Sunday's rocket attack by Jewish terrorists against an Arab bus in Jerusalem.

Two Israelis were injured when stones smashed the windshield of their car near Hebron. Troops sealed off the nearby village of Sa'ir, home of a Palestinian youth killed in the bus attack. Two of the 10 other passengers injured in the attack were still in hospital.

Troops also imposed a curfew on the Deheisheh refugee camp near Bethlehem after vehicles were stoned for the second day running.

A 22-year-old youth from the camp is being held in connection with the deaths last week of two Israelis shot near Bethlehem. A note found near the site of the bus attack and signed by "The avengers" said it was in reprisal for the two Israelis' death.

Police suspect the attackers were also responsible for a hand grenade attack on an Arab cafe in Jerusalem's Old City in September. The blast injured four people.

The incident in Deheisheh refugee camp south of Jerusalem, began after militant Jewish extremist Rabbi Moshe Levinger entered the camp with a rifle, according to military sources who declined to be identified.

He left the camp after the camp's residents threw stones at him. One stone struck a passing car, injuring its occupant, the sources said.

It was not clear what sparked the second stone-throwing incident in the village of Sa'ir, 22 kilometres southwest of Jerusalem. The 20-year-old Palestinian killed in Sunday's bus assault was from Sa'ir and the village is in mourning.

GENEVA (R) — Saudi Oil Minister Ahmad Zaki Yamani said Tuesday an agreement on allocation of cuts in OPEC output quotas was likely to be reached later Wednesday night.

The 13 OPEC (Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries) ministers meeting here agreed on the 1.5 million barrels per day (bpd) cut in their official production ceiling Monday, confident that it would help maintain the world price for oil.

But as they began Tuesday's second tough bargaining session here, not everyone was as certain of an "ent" agreement as Sheikh Yamani.

Palestinian leaders tell Howe PLO is the sole representative

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM (Agencies) — Palestinian leaders from the Israeli-occupied Arab territories told British Foreign Secretary Sir Geoffrey Howe Tuesday that the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) was their sole representative.

Mr. Howe, who Monday called for a freeze in Israel's policy of building Jewish settlements in the occupied territories, met the five Palestinian leaders during a two-day visit to Israel which he said "marked a healthy new stage" in British-Israeli relations.

On one of the five, Rashad Shawa, deposed Mayor of Gaza, said after an hour-long breakfast with Mr. Howe in Britain's Jerusalem consulate:

"We told him people in the West Bank feel very bad. Life under occupation is miserable... we consider every Palestinian inside and outside the West Bank and Gaza as part of the PLO. Sir Geo-

ffrey heard us sympathetically."

Mr. Howe, who also met Prime Minister Shimon Peres, Foreign Minister Yitzhak Shamir and Defence Minister Yitzhak Rabin, told Israel it should freeze Jewish settlement in the occupied lands and be willing to accept the PLO as negotiating partners.

Speaking at a dinner attended by Israeli ministers and parliament members, Mr. Howe said any Israeli-Arab peace must be based on the twin principles of "acceptance by all of Israel's right to a secure existence, and acceptance by all of the Palestinians' right to self-determination."

"Self-determination means just what it says. It means that the Palestinians should be able to choose what attainable constitutional arrangements they can willingly accept."

Mr. Howe added that the Palestinians must commit themselves to finding a solution by peaceful

and not violent means.

Dealing with Israeli settlements, Mr. Howe said: "The single most effective measure Israel could take to create confidence would be a freeze on settlements."

"That would make it plain to all that Israel has no intention of pre-empting the outcome of negotiations about the long-term future of the territories."

In his 15-minute speech at the dinner hosted by Mr. Shamir, Mr. Howe also indicated Britain would consider joining an expanded United Nations peacekeeping force in Lebanon after an Israeli pullout.

He reaffirmed Israel's need for "security arrangements" along its northern border with Lebanon and added, "Britain, along with other friends of Israel and Lebanon, can help with these. One way is through UNIFIL," the nine-nation U.N. Interim Force in Lebanon formed in 1978.

Healey, saying Western policies failed in Mideast, urges Soviet role

PARIS (R) — British Labour leader Denis Healey called Tuesday for greater Soviet involvement in Middle East peace efforts, saying that Western policies there had failed repeatedly since World War II.

Addressing a seminar of Western and Arab media experts in Paris, Mr. Healey said he believed the Soviet Union could cooperate with the West in at least two areas — in facilitating an Israeli withdrawal from Lebanon and in limiting arms supplies to the Middle East.

"Western interventionist policies for the past 40 years have failed... the physical presence of troops in the Arab World has always tended to be an irritant rather than a stabilising factor," he said.

"At this point it is necessary to apply the first law of holes — when you're in one, stop digging."

"I think the West must now accept that there can be no stability in the Middle East without some cooperation with the Soviet Union."

Mr. Healey, Britain's defence secretary (minister) in the 1960s, said he believed that Washington and Moscow had already reached an understanding to avoid serious conflict over the war between Iran and Iraq.

The first candidate for extending this cooperation was Lebanon, where there was wide international agreement on the need to expand the United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon (UNIFIL) to facilitate an Israeli withdrawal.

"Controlling the supply of arms to all Arab countries is another possible area of cooperation," he said.

Mr. Healey called on the United States to impose conditions on its aid to Israel, saying that the last U.S. president to do this effectively was Eisenhower in 1953.

He said that a crucial requisite for future peace moves was greater cooperation between the Arab states and in particular unity within the Palestine Liberation Organisation.

Other guest speakers scheduled during the two-day seminar include former West German Chancellor Helmut Schmidt, former Austrian Chancellor Bruno Kreisky and Crown Prince Hassan.

OPEC close to accord on sharing output cut

Al Sabah said a redistribution of the quotas agreed 18 months ago was a complex issue that could not be settled in a few hours.

But he too was confident that agreement would be reached, and by Wednesday night at the latest.

OPEC delegates said the two non-OPEC nations attending the meeting as observers, Egypt and Mexico, would be expected to make only token cuts as a gesture of support for the OPEC effort to hold the price.

The main haggling was over who should cut and by how much, it was added.

have to accept quota cuts.

The delegates said this was being strongly advocated by members who felt a show of solidarity was needed from all OPEC states.

They said it was too early to say what the final shareout would be. Saudi Arabia appeared willing to accept a cut of around 700,000 bpd but would probably have to shoulder a larger share of the burden.

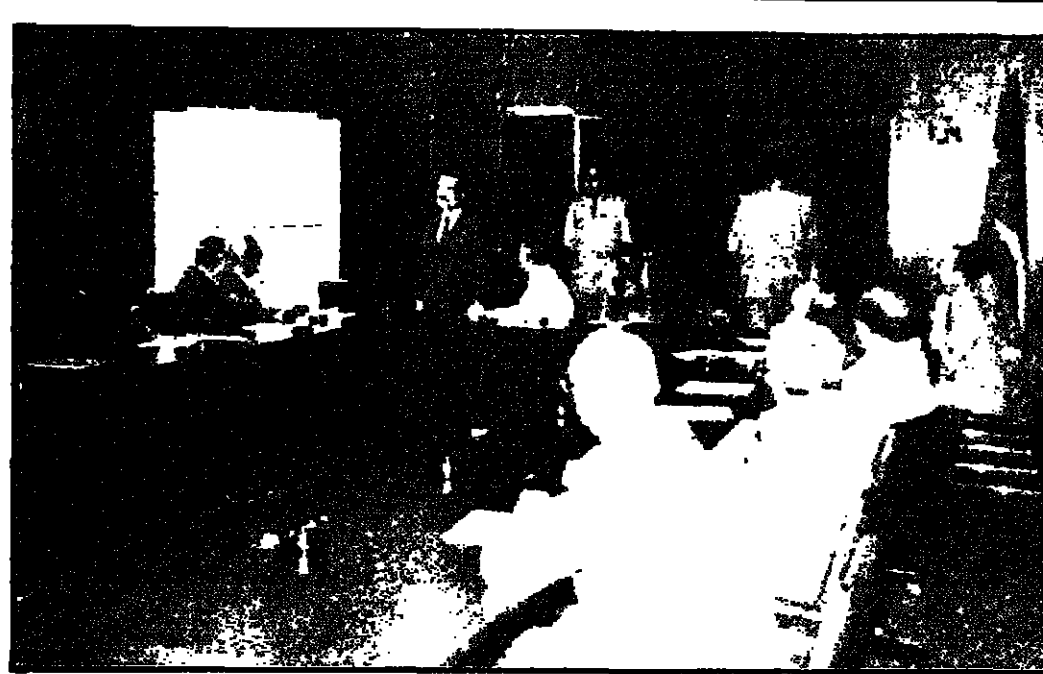
Kuwait and the United Arab Emirates were holding out for cuts of about 100,000 barrels each but might have to accept up to 150,000 bpd.

100,000 each but Algeria, which is in the same league within OPEC, was refusing to accept a cut before seeing Nigeria rescind its price cut from agreed OPEC levels.

The delegates said Nigeria was continuing to resist pressure for a reversal of its unilateral decision and was insisting on an increase rather than a cut in its quota.

OPEC agreed in July to allow Nigeria temporarily to exceed its 1.3 million bpd quota to help it overcome financial difficulties.

But Nigeria was now seeking to formalise its temporary quota of 1.45 million bpd. The delegates said other nations might agree to let it continue producing at its current level of some 1.4 million bpd.



His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan Tuesday briefs a delegation from the joint Egypt-Sudan Nile Valley Parliament on Israeli plans to exploit Arab waters and the Jewish state's practices in the occupied territories (Petra photo)

Hassan briefs Nile Valley team on Israeli policies and designs

AMMAN (J.T.) — His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan Tuesday presented a briefing on Israel's ambitious designs on Arab waters in the occupied Arab territories and its settlement policies there to a delegation representing the Nile Valley Parliament.

At a meeting held at the Royal Scientific Society (RSS), Prince Hassan also spoke about the adverse economic effects of Israel's occupation on the Arab territories.

The occupied Arab lands are considered by Israel as a large market for its own products and the West Bank and Gaza Strip together contribute up to 20 per cent of Israel's income, Prince Hassan said.

The Nile Valley delegation, which was accompanied by Speaker of the Lower House of Parliament Akef Al Fayez and House members, also watched a documentary on the RSS's programmes and activities in the field of scientific research.

Earlier, the delegation, led by

Dr. Rif'at Mahjoub, speaker of the Egyptian Parliament, visited the Martyr's Monument and was briefed on the Jordanian Armed Forces' development and the history of the Great Arab Revolt and Dr. Mahjoub watered the Tree of Life at the monument.

The delegation also visited Al Hussein Medical City and met with the director of the Royal Medical Services and other officials who briefed them on the health services offered by the centre. The delegation watched two heart operations and toured the city's departments.

The delegation later visited Al Baq'a refugee camp where they met with officials who briefed them on health and educational services offered to the refugees by the government and the United Nations Relief and Works Agency (UNRWA) for Palestine refugees.

A number of camp residents made speeches during a meeting with the delegation and praised His Majesty King Hussein's decision to restore relations with

Egypt and voiced hope that other Arab states follow suit in order to return Egypt to the Arab fold.

Mubarak thanks parliament

Meanwhile, House Speaker Fayez has received a cable from Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak in reply to a cable conveying to the Egyptian leader the Jordanian Parliament's endorsement of Jordan's decision to restore diplomatic relations with Egypt.

In his reply cable President Mubarak expressed the appreciation of the Egyptian people to the decision by Jordan to restore diplomatic relations with Egypt, describing it as "a blessed one aimed at consolidating Arab solidarity and joint Arab action."

President Mubarak also said that Egypt is trying hard to work with all Arab countries for the interest of the whole Arab Nation.

Concluding his cable, President Mubarak wished Mr. Fayez and the Lower House members every success.

Alia dismisses bomb threat at Bangkok as 'stupid letter'

By Sa'ad G. Hattar
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — A bomb threat note was found Monday in the cockpit of a Boeing 747 Jumbo jet belonging to Alia, the Jordanian Airlines, just before take-off from Bangkok but no bomb was found after a four-hour search, Alia Vice-President Public Relations Munit Tougan said Tuesday.

Mr. Tougan told the Jordan Times Alia Flight RJ 181 carrying 200 passengers, which arrived here Tuesday evening, was delayed for 20 hours more after the bomb search at Bangkok because of a technical failure. He said the threat note was nothing but "a stupid letter," and that the next Bangkok flight will leave Amman as scheduled.

Reporting from Bangkok, the Associated Press had said the Alia Jumbo jet was grounded Monday after a pilot found the note in the cockpit shortly before its scheduled departure time of 2:30 p.m.

The AP quoted a Thai force spokesman, Air Vice-Marshal Prasert Suchokorn, as saying an air force explosives team searched the plane, including all the passengers' luggage and belongings, but failed to find any bomb.

It was not immediately known who planted the threat note, however. Reuter reported from Bangkok that the aircraft crew had told airport security officials an unidentified person told them a bomb had been planted on the plane.

Kohl, Mitterrand call for renewed East-West talks

BAE KREUZNACH, West Germany (AP) — France and West Germany hope the East-West dialogue will be resumed soon after next week's U.S. presidential elections, Chancellor Helmut Kohl said Tuesday.

"We hope that the two superpowers will lose as little time as possible after the U.S. elections to relaunch their dialogue," Dr. Kohl said at a news conference with French President Francois Mitterrand after their 24-hour

(Continued on page 3)

Sino-Soviet normalisation talks make 'no progress'

PEKING (AP) — China and the Soviet Union have made "no progress" on the three major obstacles between them during a fifth round of normalisation talks in Peking, a senior Chinese official said Tuesday.

The official, speaking to a reporter on the condition he not be named, said the two sides have agreed to continue the talks, held at six-month intervals, in Moscow next year.

"There's been no progress on the major differences," the official said. But the latest talks should lead

to a further improvement in trade and cultural exchanges, he added.

Asian diplomats reported that the Soviet envoy, Vice Foreign Minister Leonid F. Ilyichev, was taken on a provincial tour after formal negotiations ended late last week.

China has defined the three major obstacles as the presence of 600,000 Soviet troops deployed on the Sino-Soviet and Sino-Mongolian borders, Moscow's backing for the Vietnamese in Kampuchea, and Soviet intervention in Afghanistan.

Israel has reportedly built 20 nuclear weapons

Nuclear threat receded in Mideast, report says

WASHINGTON (AP) — Despite the strong desire of some Middle East countries to acquire atomic bombs, "the danger of further nuclear proliferation in the region appears to have receded at least temporarily," according to a new study.

"Israel is thought to have already built some 20 nuclear weapons, or at least the easily-assembled components for them," the report, Nuclear Proliferation Today said. "No other state in the Middle East, however, is likely to have both the motivation and the ability to match this achievement for at least 10 years, if not longer," added the study by the Carnegie Endowment, for International Peace, a private, non-profit research organization.

In Asia, Japan "unquestionably has the capacity to produce nuclear weapons and is developing sizable reprocessing and en-

richment capabilities," the report said. But its history as the first victim of atomic attack and the strong popular opposition to such weapons "exclude it as a proliferation threat at least for the present," it continued adding that this could change if South Korea or Taiwan were to acquire such weapons, an unlikely prospect.

In Africa, it said, "the only nation posing a significant proliferation risk today is South Africa (which) has the capability to produce highly enriched uranium for nuclear weapons and may have accumulated enough material for between 15 and 25 nuclear ex-

plosives of the size used on Hiroshima.

"If reports that (South Africa) imported substantial quantities of low-enriched uranium from China are true, it could rapidly enrich this material further to weapons grade, substantially increasing its stockpile of nuclear explosive material," the study continued.

"Libya's nuclear activities are extremely limited and Iraq's expanding nuclear programme was derailed when Israel destroyed its large research reactor in 1981, although Iraq reportedly has been seeking to purchase plutonium clandestinely in Italy," the report continued.

It listed several factors that eventually will erode the Israeli lead: "Libya and Iraq have been building a corps of nuclear engineers for nearly a decade and, along with Syria, have been promised

Soviet nuclear power plants that would significantly augment the Arab World's nuclear infrastructure, even if the facilities themselves were subject to strict non-proliferation controls.

"Iran's nuclear expertise grew rapidly until the Shah's overthrow, and Egypt's nuclear cadres will be expanded significantly as its nuclear power programme matures... Pakistan's nuclear weapons programme, apparently financed in part by Libya, may soon bear fruit... (and) serve as a counterweight to Israel's capabilities." (See story on page 8).

Israel does not acknowledge possession of the nuclear weapons or components mentioned in the report, which goes into detail about concealment of purported nuclear fuel reprocessing activities at Israel's Dimona Reactor, and alleged nuclear collaboration with South Africa.



WATCHING THE WATERS: Helmeted and armed Israeli sailors aboard an Israeli patrol boat of the coast of Beirut check the identification cards of three fishermen after reports that Palestinian fishermen have been returning to the Lebanese capital (AP wirephoto)

Moscow convinced Egypt that Libya planted Red Sea mines, report says

WASHINGTON — A back-channel communication from the Soviet Union has convinced Egyptian officials that Libya was behind the series of mine explosions that imperiled shipping this summer in the strategic Red Sea waterway, according to a knowledgeable Egyptian source.

Through third party sources the Soviets have let it be known that they told Libya in 1978 and 1979 mines that were believed used in the explosions between July 9 and Sept. 20 that damaged

18 ships in the 1,500-mile waterway. One mine was recovered and identified as being of Soviet manufacture.

Libya had been a prime suspect from the beginning, but before the indirect Soviet message there had been no certainty that Libya possessed such mines, the source said.

The Soviet communication came after a British minesweeper found an unexploded 10-foot-long cylindrical mine Sept. 12 some 20 miles south of the Suez Canal in the Gulf of Suez, the source added.

Before the discovery there had been some lingering scepticism that Libya was being used as a scapegoat because of its reputation under the leadership of Col. Muammar Qadhafi as an abettor of international terrorism, the source said.

But after the Soviet message, most Egyptian officials and members of the international intelligence community came to accept that Libya was the culprit, he said — Washington Times.

Bush reiterates support for Israel

WASHINGTON (USIA) — Vice President George Bush told the Zionist Organisation of America that the United States would withdraw from the United Nations if Israel were expelled by the General Assembly.

Further, he promised that the United States will not recognise or negotiate with the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) unless the PLO accepts U.N. Security Council Resolutions 242 and 338.

Speaking at the Zionist National Convention in Washington Oct. 27, Mr. Bush also said that the United States has "a strong interest in helping the Israeli economy."

However, he asserted that "Israel must restructure its economy. The key to Israel's long-term economic health is to increase her exports."

Following are excerpts of Mr. Bush's address: "... If Israel is ever voted out of the U.N., the U.S. will go out with it."

Concerning the PLO, so long as the PLO refuses to accept Security Council Resolution 242 and 338 and to recognise Israel's right to exist, the United States will neither recognise nor negotiate with the PLO.

But it's not only in U.N. debate that the U.S. and Israel have stood more and more closely together these last four years. Both our military and economic relations have

matured.

Under this administration the United States has recognised Israel for what it is — as the area's one true democracy, our foremost strategic friend in the Middle East.

That recognition led, of course, to the strategic cooperation agreement that the president and the Prime Minister Shamir announced last year.

Joint military exercises have been held and prepositioning of equipment is under discussion. We are helping to fund the Lavi fighter and the president has recently authorised the sale of critical technologies to Israel for use in the fighter.

We have also taken a strong interest in helping the Israeli economy. We've changed the American military aid package from loans to grants — grants of \$1.4 billion that, with economic aid of \$1.1 billion, will produce a total package of \$2.5 billion. But in the long term, Israel must restructure its economy. The key to Israel's long-term economic health is to increase her exports. To help Israel in this effort, the president sponsored the creation of the Israel-American free trade relationship. This is a landmark event in the relationship between Israel and the United States.

With all of this happening, you can see why, following his meeting with the president two and a half weeks ago, Prime Minister Peres

told the press that relations between the United States and Israel "have reached a new level of harmony and understanding" and that "I have found in the White House a true friend of Israel."

Accompanying Mr. Peres in his visit was Foreign Minister and Former Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir. Several months ago, as prime minister, Mr. Shamir delivered the same assessment when he told Time magazine that "relations with the U.S. are better than ever before."

Now none of this means that Israel and the U.S. have no differences. Of course we do, on the moving of the embassy and arms sales to certain Arab governments, for example. But these are merely the honest differences that friends and allies always have.

Romanian minister arrives in Iraq

BAGHDAD (R) — Romania's Deputy Prime Minister Ion Nicolae arrived here Tuesday to attend meetings of the Joint Iraqi-Romanian Committee for Economic and Technical Cooperation. The Iraqi News Agency (INA) quoted him as saying the meetings, which started here on Sunday, aim at furthering friendship and cooperation between the two countries.

The agency said relief aid from the United States, the U.N. World Food Programme and elsewhere was being sent to Sudan's Darfur and Kordofan regions.

Drought has reduced Sudan's maize output to 1.3 million tonnes this year from three million in 1982, it added.

The Egyptian irrigation minister told a seminar that Egypt's Nile water resources this year were estimated at 35 billion cubic metres, compared with requirements of 55.5 billion. But he said Egypt would get the balance from water stored in the Aswan High Dam.

Jordan to present report on Israeli settlements

AMMAN (Petra) — Jordan will present a detailed memorandum about the Israeli settlements in the occupied Arab territories and ways of countering its dangers, to the Executive Bureau of the Arab Housing and Reconstruction Ministers Council. Minister of Municipal and Rural Affairs and the Environment Hamdullah Al Nabulsi said Tuesday.

Mr. Nabulsi, who will head the Jordanian delegation to the meetings which will be held at the Arab League headquarters in Tunis on Nov. 8 and 9, added that the council will discuss a number of issues pertaining to coordination and cooperation between the council and the Organisation of Islamic Cities, Arab Contractors Federation, Arab Industrial Development Organisation and the Arab Organisation for Standardisation and Metrology in the fields of housing and reconstruction.

Results of the Environment Committee meeting which was held in May will also be discussed during the council's meeting, Mr. Nabulsi said.

Sudanese flee drought-hit regions

CAIRO (R) — Thousands of refugees from drought-hit areas in east and west Sudan have been pouring into central regions, Egypt's Middle East News Agency (MENA) reported from Khartoum Tuesday.

MENA said about one million people in Sudan's Darfur and Kordofan areas had been affected by a drought, which is threatening about six million people in neighbouring Ethiopia.

In Cairo, MENA quoted Egyptian Irrigation Minister Essam Radi as saying the Nile flood this year had been the lowest since 1913, but that Egypt had been saved from famine by the Aswan High Dam.

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Lebanese militias fight in Kharroub

BEIRUT, Lebanon (AP) — Lebanese militias fought artillery battles north of Israeli line in Lebanon early Tuesday as a midnight ceasefire halted street battles that claimed three lives in Beirut.

Police said 55mm artillery, multiple rocket launchers and tank cannons were used in the night-long duels in the hills of the Kharroub region that overlooks Israel's front line in occupied South Lebanon.

No casualty reports were available from the Kharroub, about 30 kilometres south of Beirut. Fighting tapered off at daybreak, police said.

The Beirut ceasefire agreement was announced by loudspeakers that toured the mainly Muslim sector of the Lebanese capital after three hours of street clashes

involving medium guns and rocket-propelled grenades in several residential neighbourhoods.

Police said three combatants were killed and 22 militiamen and civilians wounded in the clashes between Walid Junblatt's Progressive Socialist Party and the Syrian Social Nationalist Party. The SSNP advocates the merger of Lebanon, Syria, Jordan, Iraq and Kuwait into a "Greater Syria."

The two factions, who agreed with three other pro-Syrian groups to form a "National Democratic Front" three weeks ago, issued a joint statement that blamed the fighting on an "individual quarrel, which regrettably got out of hand."

Joint patrols in jeeps broadcast orders from the two parties' commanders to their men to clear the

streets and allow Lebanese army units to take up buffer positions as of midnight. The sound of gunfire and explosions then stopped.

Police reported the city was calm Tuesday morning, but several schools announced they were closing for the day to guard against possible fighting in classes between student supporters of the two parties.

Meanwhile, the Union of Beirut Taxi Drivers announced the suspension of a strike it had scheduled for Tuesday to protest an elimination of the government subsidy on gasoline that raised its price to 44 pounds per 20 litres (approximately \$1.33 per gallon).

A statement from the union said the government has pledged to reinstate the subsidy as of Jan. 1, 1985.

No concessions to Israel, Berri says

KUWAIT (R) — Lebanese Shi'ite Muslim politician Nabih Berri was quoted Tuesday as saying any negotiations on the proposed withdrawal of Israeli forces from South Lebanon should be made through the United Nations.

In an interview with editors of five Kuwaiti newspapers, published Tuesday, Mr. Berri said Lebanon was not prepared to give concessions to Israel in return for its withdrawal.

Israeli Prime Minister Shimon Peres has said Israel plans to pull its troops from South Lebanon soon through direct military talks with Lebanon as well as U.S. mediation with Syria.

"Any negotiations on South Lebanon have to be done through the U.N.," Mr. Berri, minister of justice and the construction of the South, who has been visiting Kuwait this week, said.

"We have nothing to give the Israelis in return for their withdrawal... we refuse a role for the Israeli-backed South Lebanon Army (SLA) if Israel withdraws," he added.

Israel has been seeking a role for the SLA, a militia, in policing areas to be vacated by its troops and facing Syrian forces. It has also demanded security guarantees from Syria that would prevent Palestinian commando attacks.

Mr. Berri said Monday he planned to discuss his possible resignation from Lebanon's "national unity" government with Lebanese leaders after his return from Algeria, his next stop. He was speaking to reporters after talks on the Lebanese situation with Kuwait's Emir Sheikh Jaber Al Ahmad Al Sabah.

China rules out contacts with Israel

PEKING (AP) — China ruled out Tuesday any contacts with the Israeli government, following reports that Israel may reopen its consulate in Hong Kong with the aim of building a dialogue with Peking.

"We will not have any contacts with the Israeli government, which has invaded and occupied the territory of the Arab countries and does not recognise the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people," said a Foreign Ministry spokesman, who would not allow his name used.

China and Israel have no diplomatic relations, and Peking gives military aid to the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO).

Indirect commercial links have been widely reported, but both countries deny that the Chinese are obtaining arms from Israel.

An Israeli-type 105mm gun was seen on a Chinese army type 69 tank during an Oct. 1 military rev-

iew in Peking, which marked Communist China's 35th anniversary. Unconfirmed reports say other Israeli weapons possibly involved include tanks, armour-piercing shells and anti-ship missiles.

Western diplomats in Peking say the Chinese could have built such weapons themselves from specimens captured and obtained through Iraq, Egypt or other countries.

Israeli Prime Minister Shimon Peres told the Knesset (parliament) Sept. 14 that this government wants to establish ties with China.

"We will knock once again on the door of mighty China," he said.

Israel Radio reported Monday that Israel intended to reopen the Hong Kong consulate it closed seven years ago for budget reasons. An Israeli Foreign Ministry

spokesman acknowledged the move was under discussion but said the report was "much too premature."

The Israeli move followed the agreement last month between Britain and China which settled the future of the crown colony. Under the pact, Hong Kong will revert to Chinese control in 1997.

"Any small dent in the Chinese wall would be almost legendary for Israel" in economic and military potential, Yitzhak Shihor, head of the Asian Studies Department at Hebrew University, said in a recent interview.

Israel, apparently fearing that publicity would jeopardise China's willingness to deal clandestinely with the Jewish state, has denied or refused to comment on persistent reports in the past four years of arms sales and other trade relations with China.

TV & RADIO

WHAT'S GOING ON

FOR THE TRAVELLER

USEFUL TELEPHONE NOS.

JORDAN TELEVISION		BBC WORLD SERVICE	
MAIN CHANNEL		659, 720, 1413 KHz	
17:00	Koran	06:00 Newsweek	06:30 Waveguide Report
17:15	Cartoons	06:40 Book Choice	06:45 Financial News
17:40	Children's Programmes	06:55 Reflections	07:00 World News
18:55	Local Programme	07:09 24 Hours: News Summary	07:30 What's New
19:00	Agricultural Programme	07:45 The World Today	08:00 Newsweek
19:30	Programmes Review	08:30 Omnibus	09:00 World News
19:40	News Programme	09:09 24 Hours: News Summary	09:30 Report on Religion
20:00	News in Arabic	09:45 The World Today	10:00 World News
20:30	Arabic Series	10:09 Reflections	10:15 Classical Record Review
21:20	Arabic Series (Weekly)	10:30 Talking about Music	11:00 World News
22:15	Tomorrow's Programmes	11:09 British Press Review	11:15 The World Today
22:25	Cultural Programme	11:30 Financial News	11:40 Look Ahead
23:00	News in Arabic	11:45 The Brotherhood of Brass	12:00 News Summary
23:10	Cultural Programme Cont.	12:30 My Music	12:50 World News

FOREIGN CHANNEL	
18:00	French Programme
19:00	News in French
19:15	French Programme
19:30	News in Hebrew
20:00	News in Arabic
20:30	Three's Company
21:10	Documentary: Horizon
22:00	News in English
22:15	"V" (Second Episode)

RADIO JORDAN

855 KHz, AM & 99 MHz, FM & partly on 95.60 KHz, SW

07:00	Light Music
07:30	Newsweek
08:00	Morning Show
10:00	News Summary
10:45	Morning Show
11:00	Pop Session
12:00	News Summary
12:05	Pop Session
13:00	News Summary
13:05	Pop Session
14:00	News Bulletin
14:30	Instrumentals
14:30	Old Mother
15:00	Concert Hour
16:00	News Summary
16:05	Instrumentals
16:30	Old Favorites
17:00	Jordan Weekly
17:30	Pop Session
18:00	News Summary
18:05	Over a Cup of Tea
18:30	Musical
19:30	News Desk
19:30	Date with a Star
20:00	Evening Show
21:00	News Summary
21:05	Evening Show
22:00	News Summary
23:00	News Summary
24:00	News Headlines

VOICE OF AMERICA	
MW 1260, SW 7200, 9565, 11740, 11925 & 15210 KHz	
06:00	VOA Morning: News on the hour; news summaries; daily business reports; science and medicine; sports reports; VOA editorial and world and U.S. opinion roundups; analysis, viewpoints, features 17:00 News 17:30 Special English News and Features 18:00 News 18:10 Focus 18:30 News Music USA 19:00 News 19:10 Newsline 19:30 Special English News and Features 20:00 News 20:10 Focus 20:30 News Music USA 21:00 Newsline 21:30 Magazine Show 22:00 News and Editorial 22:15 Music USA Jazz 23:00 VOA World Report

TODAY'S EVENTS	
EXHIBITION	
* An exhibition of Islamic ceramics from Italy at the Royal Cultural Centre (until Nov. 4)	
* Painting exhibition by Saba Tamam at 5:00 p.m. at the Petra Bank gallery, head office, Wadi Saqra, Amman (until Nov. 7)	
* Flowers exhibition at the Turkish Cultural Centre from Oct. 29 - Nov. 5.	
PLAY	
* A Jordanian children's play entitled "A City Without Love" at 10:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. at Oct. 27 and 30 respectively at the Royal Cultural Centre.	
FILM	
* Die Abfahrer, Farbe at 8:00 p.m. at the Goethe Institute.	
CULTURAL CENTRES	
Royal Cultural Centre: Tel. 6610267 American Centre: 44371 American Centre library: 41520 British Council: 36147-8 French Cultural Centre: 37009 Goethe Institute: 41993 Soviet Cultural Centre: 44203 Spanish Cultural Centre: 24049 Turkish Cultural Centre: 39777 Haya Arts Centre: 665195 Husseini Youth City: 667181 Y.W.C.A.: 41793 Y.W.M.C.A.: 664251 Amman Municipal Library: 36111 University of Jordan Library: 843555	

MUSEUMS	
Folklore Museum: Jewelry and costumes over 100 years old. Also mosaics from Madaba and Jerash (4th to 18th centuries). The Roman Theatre, Amman. Opening hours: 9:00 a.m. - 5 p.m. Year-round. Tel. 51760. Jordan Archaeological Museum: Has an excellent collection of the antiquities of Jordan. Jabbal Al Qal'a (Samarra Hill). Opening hours: 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. (Fridays and holidays: 10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.). Closed Tuesdays. Jordan National Gallery: Contains a collection of paintings, ceramics, and sculptures by contemporary Islamic artists from most of the Muslim countries and a collection of paintings by 19th Century orientalist artists. Muntazah, Jabbal Luweibid. Opening hours: 10:00 a.m. - 1:30 p.m. and 3:30 p.m. - 6:00 p.m. Closed Tuesdays. Tel. 30128. Museum of Military Memorabilia: Collection of military memorabilia dating from the Arab Revolt of 1916. Sports City, Amman. Opening hours 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. Closed Saturdays. Tel. 664240. Popular Life of Jordan Museum: 100 to 150 year old items such as costumes, weapons, musical instruments, etc. Opening hours: 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. Closed Tuesdays. Tel. 37169.	

CHURCHES	
St. Joseph Church (Roman Catholic) Jabbal Amman, Tel. 24590. Church of the Annunciation (Roman Catholic) Jabbal Luweibid, 37440. De la Salle Church (Roman Catholic) Jabbal Hussein, 661757. Church of the Annunciation (Greek Orthodox) Abdali, 23541. Anglican Church (Church of the Redeemer) Jabbal Amman, 41559. Armenian Catholic Church Ashrafieh, 77131. Armenian Orthodox Church Ashrafieh, 77131. St. Ephraim Church (Syria Orthodox) Ashrafieh, 771751. Amman International Church (Inter-denominational): meets at Southern Baptist School in Shmeisani, 816534.	

PRAYER TIMES	
6:43	Fajr
6:52	(Sunrise) Duhur
11:20	Dhuhur
14:25	'Asr
16:48	Maghreb
18:09	'Isha

AMMAN AIRPORT	
This information is supplied by Alia information department at the Queen Alia International Airport Tel. (06) 53200, where it should always be verified.	
ARRIVALS	
06:50	Cairo (MS)
07:40	Karachi (PK)
08:50	Frankfurt (LH)
09:15	Dubai (SV)
09:30	Agaba (RJ)
10:00	Beirut (RJ)
12:15	Abu Dhabi, Doha (GA)
14:40	Kuwait (KU)
15:10	Jeddah (SV)
16:00	Cyprus (RJ)
16:15	Rio de Janeiro, Lisbon (IA)
17:10	Athens (RJ)
17:25	Los Angeles, Chicago, Vienna (RJ)
17:35	London, Paris (MS)
17:40	New York, Amsterdam
17:40	Madrid, Geneva (RJ)
18:00	Rome (RJ)
18:10	Paris, Damascus (AP)
18:30	Cairo (RJ)
18:30	Bangkok (RJ)
19:25	Beirut (MEA)
00:45	Cairo (RJ)
01:10	Baghdad (RJ)

DEPARTURES	
05:45	Cairo (RJ)
06:50	Damascus, Frankfurt (LH)
06:50	Beirut (RJ)
06:50	Istanbul, Amsterdam (KL)
07:15	Bahrain, New York (RJ)
07:50	Agaba (RJ)
08:30	Cairo (MS)
08:30	Athens (GA)
08:45	Karachi (PK)
09:00	Damascus, Rome (Alitalia)
18:55	Damascus, Rome (AZ)
11:00	Vienna, New York (RJ)
11:30	Athens (RJ)
12:15	Frankfurt, Copenhagen (RJ)
12:30	Larnaca, Zurich (SR)
12:30	Istanbul, Bgrade (RJ)
12:30	Cyprus (RJ)
14:30	Doha, Abu Dhabi, Muscat (GA)
15:40	Kuwait (KU)
16:40	Jeddah (SV)
17:15	Baghdad (IA)
19:30	Kuwait (RJ)
19:45	Bahrain, Doha (RJ)
20:15	Jeddah (RJ)
20:30	Abu Dhabi, Dubai (RJ)
23:20	Cairo (RJ)
21:10	Baghdad (RJ)

WEATHER	
Bulletin supplied by the Department of Meteorology. It will be partly cloudy, with scattered showers, and at times there will be thunder showers, especially in the southern and eastern parts of the country. Light and variable winds will be becoming northwesterly moderate. In Agaba, it will be hazy, with northerly fresh winds. Low/high temperature in deg. C. Amman 12/23 Agaba 18/29 Dumra 13/24 Jordan Valley 19/31	

EMERGENCIES	
Ambulance	193, 775111
Fire, fire, police	199
Blood bank	775121
Civil Defence rescue	661111
Fire headquarters	22090-3
Police rescue	192, 21111, 37777
Police headquarters	39141
Traffic police	56390-1
Electric Power Co.	36381-2
Municipal water service	77125-8
Queen Alia Int. Airport	(08) 53333
TAXIS:	
Neil taxi	44433
Grand Palace taxi	667079
Medical City taxi	813813
Faisal taxi	22023
Rashed taxi	22023
Tala taxi	25021

HOSPITALS	
Hussein Medical Centre	813813-32
Khaldil Maternity, J. Amn	44281-4
Akhil Maternity, J. Amman	42441
Jabbal Amman Maternity	42362
Madha, J. Amman	26140
Palestine, Shmeisani	664171-4
Shmeisani Hospital	669131
University Hospital	845845
Dar Al-Shifa, J. Husna	667156
Al-Mustashfi	66727-9
The Islamic, Abdali	665292
Al-Ahli, Abdali	664164
Al-Muhajreen	77101-3
Al-Bashir, J. Ashrafieh	775111
Army, Marla	91611

GENERAL	
Jordan Television	773111
Radio Jordan	774111
Ministry of Tourism	42311
Hotel complaints	666412
Price complaints	661176
Telephone	
Information	12
Jordan and Middle East calls	10
Overseas calls	17
Cable or telegram	18
Repair service	11

MARKET PRICES	
Upper/lower price in Jls per kg.	
Apple (golden)	190/ 160
Apple (local)	190/ 160
Apple (stark)	190/ 160
Banana	280/ 240
Banana (Mukammur)	240/ 210
Broad beans	480/ 440
Cabbage	120/ 90
Carrot	150/ 120
Cauliflower (white)	110/ 80
Cucumber (large)	150/ 120
Cucumber (small)	330/ 280
Dates	200/ 170
Eggplant (large)	150/ 110
Eggplant (small)	150/ 110
Figs	300/ 250
Garlic	100/ 70
Grapes	300/ 250
Grapefruit	300/ 250
Guava	200/ 170
Lemon	130/ 100
Mallow	200/ 150
Marrow (large)	150/ 120
Marrow (small)	210/ 180
Onion (dry)	160/ 130
Onion (green)	240/ 200
Okra	560/ 500
Olives (green)	420/ 380
Oranges (Abu Swra)	240/ 200
Oranges (Shmeisani)	200/ 170
Parsley	100/ 100
Peas	500/ 450
Pepper (sweet)	180/ 140
Pepper (hot green)	180/ 140
Pumpkin (sweet)	300/ 250
Potatoes	200/ 170
Radishes	100/ 80
Spinach	220/ 180
Sweet Melon	150/ 110
Tomatoes	130/ 100
Water Melon	130/ 100

Home news

Jordan gives food, relief supplies to Ethiopia

AMMAN (J.T.) — A Jordanian transport plane will leave Amman for Addis Ababa Wednesday morning carrying food and relief supplies to the famine-stricken areas of Ethiopia, according to an announcement Tuesday.

The announcement said that the Jordanian gift is a manifestation of the ties of friendship and cooperation between Jordan and Ethiopia and is in response to an international call for help to deal with the famine crisis in Ethiopia.

Jordan announced Sunday that it is joining international relief efforts and will immediately dispatch medical and food supplies to relieve victims in the African state. The decision taken, by the cabinet at its regular session, was announced by Minister of Information Laila Sharaf who said that Jordan's response to calls for help from Addis Ababa reflects the country's solidarity with other world nations in relieving famine victims.

As many as 900,000 Ethiopians are reported to be facing death by starvation in Ethiopia following devastating drought and crop failures.

Al Hussein Society continues projects to rehabilitate physically handicapped

AMMAN (Petra) — The Al Hussein Society for the Rehabilitation of the Physically Handicapped is working on rehabilitating 80 students vocationally and academically, society's president Princess Majida said Tuesday.

Speaking about the aims of the society, Princess Majida said that it aims to assist orphans with a view to developing their services and activities. Princess Majida said that the society established an Amman centre for the rehabilitation of paralysed people last March in cooperation with the Queen Alia Jordan Welfare Fund (QAJWF) with financial aid from Britain and Oman.

The European Common Market, Princess Majida said, has provided the centre with medical equipment and offered them facilities to import equipment from various places. In an interview with the Jordanian News Agency, Petra, Princess Majida said that the Ministry of Social Development supplies the centre with food while the Ministry of Education provides teaching staff for the society.

Speaking about the centre, Princess Majida said that it accommodates 120 students, of whom 80 students are studying on a non-residential basis, and is staffed by 35 employees. The centre, she added, consists of a health clinic, remedial pools and an outpatient clinic which receives handicapped people from various parts of Jordan two days a week. In addition to a physiotherapy centre.

Concerning the centre's future activities, Princess Majida said the society will establish workshops for mending electrical equipment, a wood and carving unit and sewing and typing centre for vocational courses and activities.

Hikmat named acting foreign minister during Masri's absence

AMMAN (Petra) — The cabinet has requested Transport Minister Taher Hikmat to serve as acting Foreign Minister during the absence of Foreign Minister Taher Al Masri who is in Algiers representing Jordan at the country's 30th anniversary of the revolution against France.

Meanwhile, in Amman, Algerian Ambassador to Jordan Abdul Rahman Sharif praised the Jordanian-Algerian relations.



Minister of Awqaf and Islamic Affairs Abed Khalaf Daoudieh (second left) is greeted by Soviet Ambassador to Amman Rafik Nishanov (second right) upon his return to Jordan from a two-week visit to the Soviet Union (Petra photo)

Daoudieh returns from visit to Soviet Union

AMMAN (Petra) — Minister of Awqaf and Islamic Affairs Abed Khalaf Daoudieh returned to Amman Tuesday at the end of a two-week visit to the Soviet Union at the invitation of Sheikh Shamsuddin Babkhanov, leader of the Muslim community in the Soviet Central Asian Republic.

In a statement upon his arrival in Amman, the minister said that he visited Uzbekistan and Kazakhstan where he met officials and religious leaders to discuss religious affairs. The Soviet officials voiced support for the Palestinian cause and the Palestinians struggle to regain their usurped rights in Palestine, the minister said.

The Jordanian delegation felt the appreciation by the Soviet people for King Hussein's wise policies in handling various issues, the minister added.

During the visit the delegation toured historical and archaeological sites and visited Muslim communities.

Saket reaffirms student intake system for secondary stage will be implemented this year

AMMAN (Petra) — Minister of Education Hikmat Al Saket Tuesday reaffirmed that academic secondary schools in the country will not accept more than 60 per cent of the male students who pass entrance exams for the secondary stage upon completing the third preparatory class this scholastic year.

The minister, who was speaking at a meeting with principals of government and private schools in the Jabal Amman area, said that those who fail the exams can repeat the third preparatory class at their schools if they are under 16 years of age, and those not selected for the academic courses will have to take vocational training courses.

The practice of classifying the students and channelling them into academic and vocational streams was earlier done by school teachers, but now the Ministry of Education will take the responsibility by holding a general exam at the end of the scholastic year in the hope of achieving justice, the minister said.

Tawjihi exams

As to the students who fail their tawjihi exams in government schools, he said the ministry decided that they can repeat their classes against a JD 50 fee upon recommendations from the directors of education in various regions. This will solve the problem of students in remote regions of the country, which lack private schools or evening classes, and will enable the students to repeat the tawjihi class, the minister said.

The minister announced that a number of committees have been set up to examine every subject in the present curricula with a view to introducing amendments to textbooks. He also said that the ministry has provided all schools with their needs of teachers for each all subjects from the beginning of this scholastic year and he called on supervisors to increase their visits to schools and to help teachers of the first three elementary classes to carry out their work.

Mr. Saket announced that the Ministry of Education has set up committees to draw up a general framework and bye laws for teachers clubs now that a plot of land for these clubs has been allocated for the project.

Sharaf to chair talks on national information development project

AMMAN (Petra) — The higher committee for the projected "Information Development Project" will hold its first meeting in Amman Wednesday under the chairmanship of Information Minister Laila Sharaf.

The committee, made up of several senior officials and representatives of universities and farmers will discuss a project which the Information Ministry intends to carry out in the country in cooperation with the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO) and the United Nations Fund for Population Activities.

The committee is entrusted with developing information concepts, methods in development and the employment of mass and communication media to help carry out national development plans in the urban, rural and badia regions of Jordan.

Public participation

The committee seeks to enlist the public's participation in its mission, and will discuss a plan in this respect, prepared in cooperation with the Ministries of Labour, Health, Social Development and Agriculture.

The committee is expected to carry out experiments in two rural and urban regions as a first step towards implementing the project. The committee comprises under secretaries of the Ministries of Information, Labour, Social Development, Health and Agriculture, and Jordan Television Director Munir Durra, representatives from the National Planning Council, Yarmouk University, the University of Jordan, the Jordan Valley Authority and the farmers association. A UNESCO specialist, Dr. Fathi Butros, has arrived in Amman to supervise the implementation of the project.

Outstanding craftsmanship creates harmony in Al Faiha' mosque

By Meg Abu Hamdan
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — By the end of next month one of the most outstanding mosques ever constructed in Jordan will be open and fulfilling its function. The Al Faiha' mosque in Shmeisani rises from one of the area's highest points overlooking Wadi Saqra, in layers of soft pink and creamy limestone, capped by not one but seven gleaming, golden domes and a glowing all-white minaret of perfect proportions.

The building of the mosque, whose design is interestingly not a contemporary one but a combination of elements taken from older and well loved mosques — thus the minaret is based on the design of the Othman Mosque in Damascus and the dome on that of the Al Aqsa Mosque in Jerusalem — began back in 1982 on almost two dunums of land donated to the Al Faiha' Islamic Society by Mr. Adnan Jabri.

The initial idea was that the mosque should include within its complex, offices for the society and a small hospital for needy people and it was estimated to cost around JD 350,000. However, during the construction of the mosque, a decision was taken to go all out on the internal decorations, and now, almost three years and an extremely attractive building later, the price of the project is expected to top the JD one million mark.

Even in these days of escalating costs, the difference is considerable, but after a tour around the inside of the mosque you realise just why the building has cost so much, for the internal decoration by the Al Khayyat family are simply breathtaking.

Khayyat craftsmanship

The superb craftsmanship of these four Syrian brothers, whose family has been plying this trade from generations and who have recently been working for the Royal Protocol in Saudi Arabia, is apparent as soon as you approach the main entrance of the mosque. Above a beautiful inlaid marble mosaic floor hangs a huge hand-made brass lamp, whose delicate filigree work is enhanced by droplets of amber hand blown glass. Behind it rises the hand carved door whose massive proportions make it perhaps one of the largest doors of its kind in the country. Constructed in naturally aged and matured wood, the carving on this door, as it is throughout the building is exquisite, the intricate, geometrical patterns flow unflatteringly over its entire width and height.

Inside, the main hall, which has a capacity of 2,000 worshippers, is dominated by the minbar which is based on the design of that in the great Umayyad Mosque of Damascus. One does not know what to look at first: whether at the ornate red and black marble mosaic, or at the delicate carving of the wooden sides or at the glowing finely painted patterns of the columns of the door.

"We have tried to create a harmony between the three kinds of crafts incorporated within the structure," one of the Khayyat brothers said, declining to give his first name so as not to give importance to himself over his brothers. This aim has certainly been achieved, but all the wonderful craftsmanship of the minbar pales next to that of its door which, as Mr. Khayyat rightly says, is a "masterpiece".

The geometrical designs of the door are outlined in a continuous pale line of wood which gives a strong unity to the design. Within this "Arabic line", as it is called, small pieces of differently, but naturally coloured woods are fitted together with the precision of a jigsaw and they impart to the whole design a rare richness and complexity.

Unique designs

Next to the minbar nestles the mihrab which again incorporates fine marble mosaic and inlay work; the whole niche being supported by two creamy onyx columns which as can be plainly seen have been cut from the same rock. Panels of marble mosaic work form a continuous frieze all around the lower walls of the mosque, each of the four corners having its own individual design. In fact, all the 70 different geometric and floral designs used in the mosque are unique.

"We use special designs for each building we are commissioned to do," Mr. Khayyat said, reluctantly admitting that he was the creator of all the designs. "We never repeat a design, so it is possible that an expert when looking at the Al Faiha' mosque mihrab would be able to tell you without being told, which mihrab it was."

Puncturing the upper walls of the mosque are small stained-glass windows which illuminate the interior with a million tiny rainbows of colour. The designs are made in a very traditional Muslim technique which uses gypsum to hold the pieces in place. Thus, where you would find heavy black lead lines in European stained glass, here you see fine, white lines which give a lighter more luminous effect. This greater luminosity is further enhanced by the special colours the brothers use.

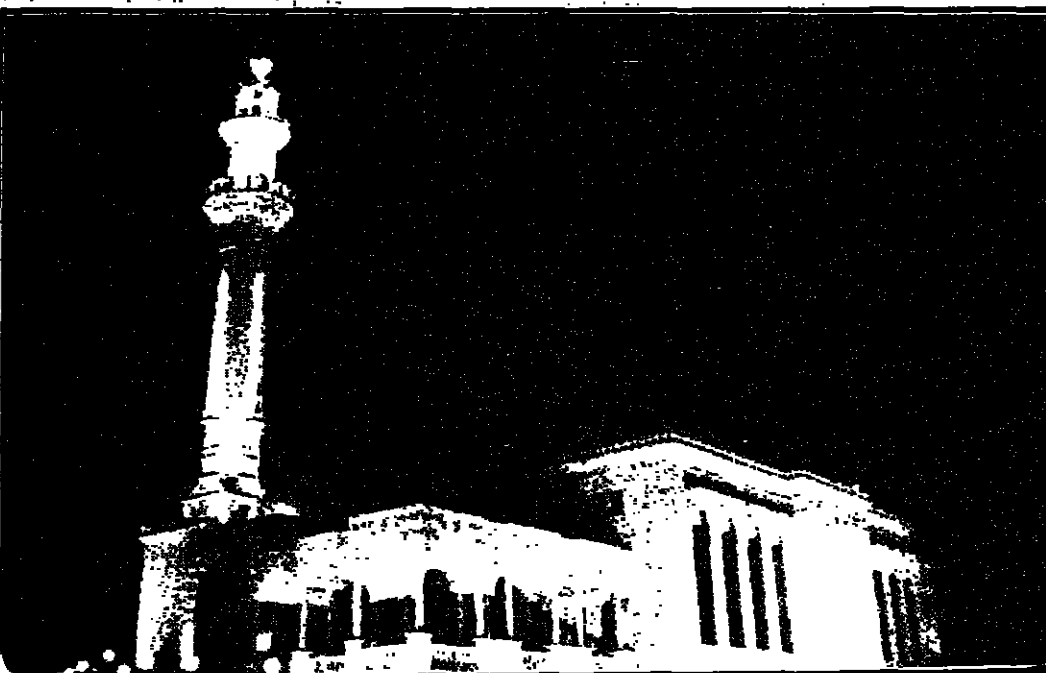
Called "Mother colours", they have a purity that gives the light passing through the panes a special brilliance.

The Khayyat brothers also use a special type of hand-ground colour in the paints used on the interior of the dome which is lined with inlaid wood, whose intricate designs gleam with 22 carat gold (the external domes are coated with 18 karat gold). The special feature of the domes are the muqarnas corners and cornices.

"Traditionally these muqarnas domes were carved out of stone, but my grandfather developed a technique which consists of fixing many specially carved pieces of wood together in a certain way to give the same effect in wood, which could then be painted more easily." Each of the chandeliers that light the mosque also hang from small finely painted muqarnas structures.

Dividing the main hall from a small reading room, which will be lined completely in beautifully painted wood panels, is a huge and delicately carved "mashrabiyya" — a glowing tan network of wood as fine as lace.

Finally, lining the floor of the mosque will be a rich emerald green carpet whose specially commissioned design of individual prayer mats will help the worshippers to stand in line.



View of the Al Faiha' mosque by night showing the 18 karat gold domes and the white minaret based on the design of the Othman Mosque in Damascus.

Dentists, ministries launch campaign to develop children's dental education

By Simonetta Carr
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — November 10th has been chosen this year as the Oral and Dental Day in Jordan. The first such day in this country was held last year, and Dr. Nasralla Nasralla, chairman of the Cultural and Information Committee of the Jordan Dental Association (JDA), in cooperation with the Ministry of Education, hope to make it a national day.

The purpose of this day is to give information and to develop dental education in people of all ages, but especially students, in order to improve their dental care, behaviour and health.

The opening programme will be held at 9 a.m. on Nov. 10th at the Shamili School in Shmeisani under the patronage of Minister of Health Kamel Al Ajlouni. Throughout the day private dental clinics all over the Kingdom will be open to receive students of all ages. They will check any abnormalities and give basic treatment and advice free of charge. National drug factories and agencies will contribute free drug samples and dental medications for that day.

Lectures, posters

In all the largest schools lectures will be given, reinforced by movies and slides, specially planned to suit the different ages' needs. Posters will also be displayed. Elementary school children will be taught how to prevent fractures while playing and how to deal with such cases should they occur. They will be given instructions on oral hygiene and proper diet, such as avoiding sweets and high-sugar products between meals. "Teeth should be cleaned thoroughly after taking any food containing sugar," Dr. Nasralla says. "This age particularly requires intensive work of dental education since six-year olds with their first pocket money often don't know how to make wise snack choices."

High school dental education will concentrate on causes and prevention of caries. "Hormonal changes in the body, typical of this age, also cause gingival changes that need special concern," Dr. Nasralla adds.

Dr. Nasralla says dental education is highly needed in Jordan where different factors contribute to a high percentage of dental problems. The D.M.F.T. index per person in Jordan is 3.6 at the age of 12 and 5.9 at the age of 15. Periodontal diseases are moderate to high, and dentofacial anomalies approximately 10-12 per cent. In 1982, over 100,425 students were examined by the school dental department, and caries was found in 45,542 cases, a percentage of approximately 45 per cent.

Distribution of dentists

At present, there are about 900 dentists in Jordan, with a rate of 1/2,000 people. These figures are not so bad compared to surrounding countries (Somalia has a rate of 1/1,000,000), but the problem is that about 400 of these dentists are located in the main cities, leaving a much lower rate in the villages. "There are 35 private clinics in just one street in Jabal Hussein", Dr. Nasralla says, "while Mahal, for example, has only one and smaller villages have none."

The Ministry of Health is also sponsoring some clinics which are divided into two groups; clinics for Ministry of Health employees and their families and school dental clinics, particularly designed for the examination of the teeth of students aged 6-12.

The Ministry of Health has also promoted a portable mobile dental clinic equipped for examination and minor treatment only, designed to visit schools in the area surrounding Amman. There are about 13 groups of examiners, including a dentist, a dental hygienist and a driver in each group, which alternate. This portable clinic is equipped with a dental unit and with films and slides for lecturing the students.

"This mobile clinic is definitely helping in improving dental health education in Jordan", Dr. Nasralla says, "although we hope the service will be increased to cover every age of students in all schools in both cities and villages in Jordan."

A pamphlet distributed by the World Health Organisation (WHO) shows that dental caries as well as periodontal disease have worsened in the whole Mediterranean area. "The causes", says Dr. Nasralla, "are multiple. Highly cooked foods, civilisation in general, high consumption of sweets, poor oral hygiene, abuse of toothbrushes in some cases, lack of regular dental visits, lack of proper information in schools, ignorance of parents and fear of dentists. The solution is good informative programmes to the whole population as well as the proper distribution of dental services in every city and village."

The economical status also plays a major role. People who can not afford the highly-priced private practitioners usually suffer from more dental problems. "Dental treatment is highly priced all over the world," Dr. Nasralla says, "because it requires expensive equipment, electricity, water and, often, laboratory work. But what Jordan needs is a good dental social insurance, especially for the elders."

Kohl, Mitterrand call for peace talks

(Continued from page 1)

summit.

Mr. Mitterrand was scheduled to leave for home later Tuesday at the conclusion of the 44th Franco-German summit of the post-war era.

Mr. Mitterrand described the talks in this Nahe River spa as "fruitful discussions." Dr. Kohl said the meetings demonstrated the "friendly spirit" of relations between the two North Atlantic Treaty Organisation (NATO) allies and Common Market partners.

Dr. Kohl said both countries would do their best to have Spain and Portugal join the 10-nation Common Market as scheduled on Jan. 1, 1986.

Dr. Kohl said his talks with Mr. Mitterrand centred on the "state and perspectives" of the European Community and that they explored ways to create greater European unity.

Mr. Mitterrand, speaking about bilateral questions discussed, said the two sides divided to press ahead with joint space projects.

He said border controls between the two countries would be further reduced, and announced that the two countries will have a common digital car telephone system envisaged to be operational in 1988 or 1989.

Mr. Mitterrand said he and Dr. Kohl agreed to go ahead with joint work in creating a military all-weather reconnaissance satellite and developing the Ariane space rocket.

Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir. King Hussein accused the Israeli government of conspiring with unidentified quarters to topple the Jordanian government.

Asked about Jordan's strained relations with Syria, the King said "nothing personal is involved in our relations with Syria."

He said the Jordan-Syria differences emanated mainly from the Syrian ways of handling the Lebanese question, the PLO and from his support of Iraq in its war with Iran.

"We only differ on how to tackle the Lebanese problem, on means of solving the Palestinian issue and on Syria's attitude towards the Gulf war between Iran and Iraq," he said.

Jordan has supported Iraq while Syria backs Iran.

There might be some modifications in the Arab-Israeli armistice line, but Jerusalem will have to return to Arab sovereignty," he said. "This would be effected in an understanding of peace that would keep the Holy City open to all faithfuls" from the three religions.

He denied he had ever met with Israeli Prime Minister Shimon Peres, saying that Jordan had at one stage followed closely the political developments within the Jewish state "only to realise that extremist elements were cropping up in the political arena."

"That did not happen," said the King about the alleged meeting with Mr. Peres. The Kuwaiti editors were referring to allegations about his meeting with Mr. Peres when he was leader of the opposition to the government to ex-

King to discuss arms with Soviets

(Continued from page 1)

Saudi Arabia and other Arab League member countries have said that a return of Egypt to the Arab fold can only be attained through "Arab unanimity" and not unilaterally.

"The basis for Arab-Israeli peace is there in the (U.N. Security Council Resolution) 242," he said. "But we won't bargain on as many as one inch of occupied territory or a grain of sand in Palestinian land and rights. We are for peace and not for surrender."

King Hussein said that in 1967 an understanding was reached between Jordan, Egypt and the United States that Resolution 242 meant a return to Arab sovereignty of all Israeli-occupied territory, including the Arab sector of Jerusalem.

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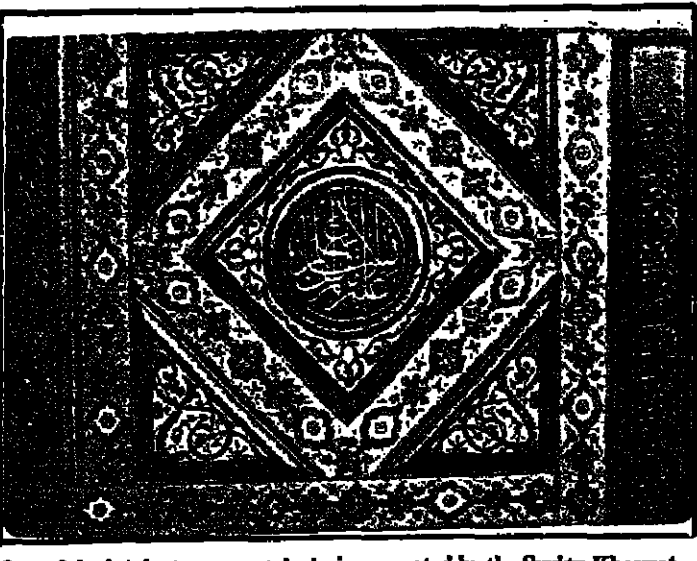
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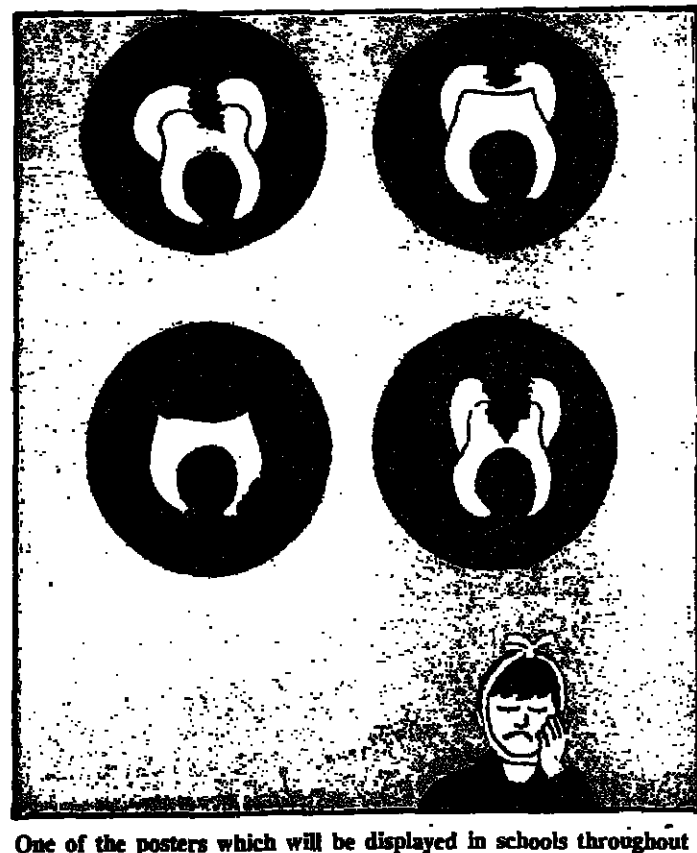
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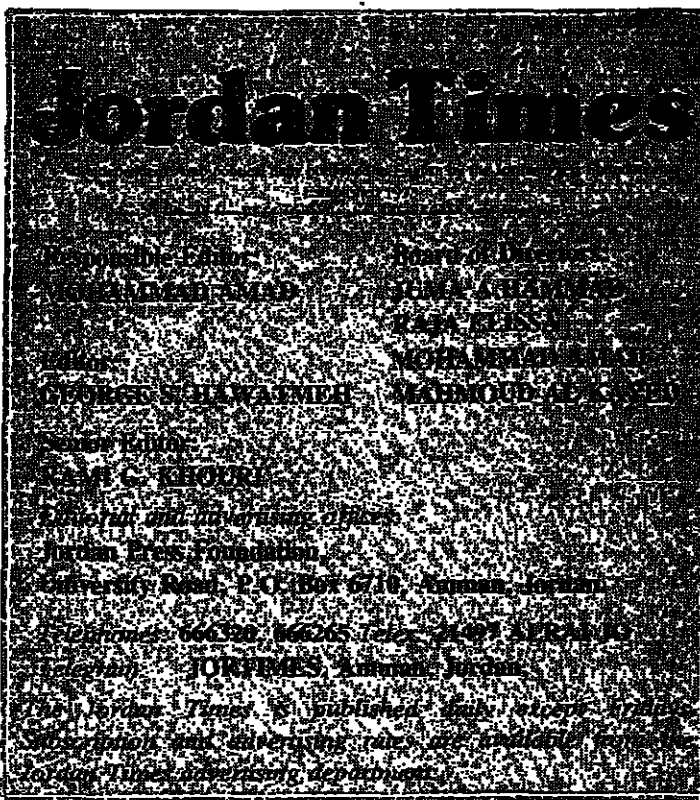
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One of the intricate, geometric designs created by the Syrian Khayyat brothers. This beautiful wood panel lines the reading room of the Al Faiha' mosque.



One of the posters which will be displayed in schools throughout Jordan to educate children on the importance of proper oral hygiene and dental care.



Ministry wrong again

THE NUMEROUS regulations issued by Jordanian universities and the Ministry of Education have made it rather difficult for Jordanians to acquire higher education after completing the school's secondary stage. Students are required to overcome a number of barriers, each one different from the other, in order to arrive at their aspired objectives. As if those measures were not enough, the Ministry of Education has just ruled that on completing the preparatory stage, students should pass an entrance exam for the secondary stage. This means closing schools in the face of a considerable number of students in Jordan because many are bound to fail the examinations and only a fixed number of the others will be accepted for the academic course.

At university, there are bylaws and conditions for distributing the seats. Students are required to have high Tawjih grades and should be able to pay enormous fees so as to acquire seats in one of the faculties. These measures open the university doors for a mere 20 per cent of the school graduates every year, while the other 80 per cent normally seek higher education abroad — from China and the Philippines in the East to the Americas in the West. In a bid to absorb the 80 per cent of the students who leave school every year, a number of Jordanian educationalists have tried to set up a private university in the country. But the attempt was in vain. The Ministry of Education which turned the request down had earlier allowed others to open community colleges, and by doing so, allowed them the chance to make a fortune in the process.

Now that the Ministry of Education is determined to hold that entrance exam for academic secondary school education, another problem will emerge and a new generation of beneficiaries will surface on the scene. There is no doubt that the new measure will deny a large proportion of students the chance of acquiring good education, and this will force these students to seek vocational training elsewhere. But the new measure will also open the door for certain people to open vocational schools so as to absorb the students, and so make a fortune out of them.

However hard one tries to understand the wisdom behind the entrance exam, he fails in the end to grasp it. But it seems that the old-fashioned concept that a university degree is a licence for work is still viable in this country. If this is so it means that Jordan still lacks the proper means to deal with the modern age and will fail in future endeavours to do so. Had there been a survey on the number of university graduates in the country it would have revealed that probably 20 per cent or more of those university graduates are employed to do jobs that have nothing to do with the degrees they hold. This ratio is bound to increase steadily as more and more are turned out from universities and community colleges. So far, there has been no real harm in this phenomenon since university education helps people to deal with the modern age through science and education, and a university degree should not necessarily lead its holder to a ready-made job.

One really wonders if it is really shameful or improper for a soldier, a policeman, a bus driver or a merchant, a hotel receptionist, an employee in a government office or even a labourer or a telephone operator to hold a university degree. What is the harm in all of us acquiring university degrees regardless of whether we get work based on its merit or not. A traffic policeman who holds a university degree is no less competent than his school-graduate colleague; on the contrary, he should be more competent. Dealing with an employee in customs at the airport or a taxi-driver holding a university degree should not be more difficult nor more expensive than dealing with those lower degrees or diplomas; again the opposite is true.

The new measure by the Ministry of Education and all other conditions and limitations restricting school and higher education are very dangerous for the society, and could lead to the creation of thousands of bitter and frustrated people who are denied their chances in life. This trend would not doubt also cause the wheels of our progress to come to a halt while the vehicles of other nations continue to advance — Khalek Mahadin, Al Ra'i.

ARABIC PRESS EDITORIALS

Al Ra'i: Jerusalem is essential issue

KING HUSSEIN made it clear in his interview with Al Sharq Al Awsat magazine that Jerusalem is of great significance for the Arabs and, therefore, there can be no compromise on their rights in that city. He predicted that there will be a serious confrontation with the United States over this issue if Mondale was the coming U.S. presidential election, since Mondale wants to transfer the U.S. embassy to Jerusalem and supports Israel's endeavours to regard the city as the capital of the state of Israel.

On the other hand, the King said that the road to peace is clear and should be based on the implementation of the U.N. Security Council Resolution 242, which calls for the return of Arab land to its Arab owners and safeguarding the rights of the Palestinian people in their homeland in exchange for peace. The King said that there can be no peace if the U.S. persists in its support for the aggressor, encouraging Israel to perpetuate its occupation of Arab territory and to evict the Arabs from Palestine.

Al Dustour: Diversifying weapon sources

KING HUSSEIN said in an interview with Al Sharq Al Awsat magazine that Jordan has decided to diversify its weapons and to buy them from various sources because it believes that right should be supported by force. He said the Arabs are seeking to regain their rights and therefore must be backed by adequate power to support their endeavours.

For this reason the Arabs should unify their ranks and mobilise their resources and should establish coordination among their states and win back Egypt to their ranks.

The King said Egypt and Jordan hold identical views about the establishment of peace in the Middle East, which he said should be based on the U.N. Security Council Resolution 242, which guarantees a withdrawal of Israeli forces from Arab territories in exchange for peace. King Hussein also reaffirmed Jordan's support for Palestinian action, which he said is part of the overall Arab effort for regaining the rights of the Arab people in Palestine.

Sawt Al Shaab: No fair judge

IN HIS interview with the Al Sharq Al Awsat magazine, King Hussein presented Jordan's views with regard to the Arab affairs and the Arab-Israeli conflict as best as he could and left no doubt as to Jordan's orientation towards various issues.

The King explained that Arab solidarity should be felt and exercised and cited Jordan's support for Iraq in its war with Iran, its support for the Palestinian people's struggle to regain their land and Jordan's drive to win Egypt back to the Arab ranks as examples of this country's orientation. He said that continued differences and disputes among the Arabs will no doubt open the door for foreign intervention and international polarisation of the region, which would eventually lead to a division of the Arab World into spheres of influence for the major powers.

The King criticised Washington's biased attitude towards the aggressor and its dealings with the Arabs in arms sales, and he reaffirmed Jordan's decision to diversify the sources of its weapons and defend its people and the Arab Nation. He said that Washington has proved it cannot be a fair judge in the Middle East conflict because it bases its policies on supporting Israel, which has cost the U.S. its credibility in the region.

Holy See knows the Zionists better

By Musa Keilani

THE REPORTS this week focus on the split in the Vatican's ruling "curia" regarding establishing diplomatic relations with Israel.

Relentless Israeli efforts were exerted since 1948 to have the Roman Catholic Church's immense spiritual power recognising the "legitimacy" of Israel. The Orthodox Church in Athens was exposed to the same Zionist and Israeli lobby, but without any effect.

Earlier, Pope John Paul II declined the invitation extended to him on Feb. 25, 1984 to visit Jerusalem though the Pope's enthusiasm and globe-trotting fondness took him to places ranging from Alaska to Latin America and to all Far Eastern remote places. The first central place in a pontiff's orientation should have been Jerusalem, the Holy Sepulchre, Bethlehem and Nazareth. But the Pope refrained from taking

that first journey to the Holy Places as a manifestation of his silent condemnation of Israel's illegitimacy. Muslims and Arabs held in high esteem the Pope's refusal to be manipulated by Menachem Begin's subterfuge in 1982 regarding a visit to Israel.

The pontiff's honourable stand reminds Arabs of an earlier stand on Dec. 25, 1904, when Pope Pius X met the spiritual founder of Israel, Theodor Herzl. The Vatican then rejected the Jewish suggestion to grant the Holy Places in Jerusalem a regional privileged status of "extra-territoriality" with a certain favouritism for Jews. Herzl later in his memoirs recalled with great anger the Pope's stand and naively attributed that to the Pope's displeasure when Herzl refused to kiss his hand.

It is true that Israel has partially succeeded to penetrate the Roman Catholic Church in

the past and managed to manipulate influential decision-makers like Cardinal Pia and Cardinal Spellman. Recently the Zionist lobby controls the "New Evangelists" like Billy Graham and Jerry Falwell and other fundamentalist Christians in the United States and Europe.

When Pope Paul VI visited Jordan and the Holy Places in Jan. 4-6, 1964, the Vatican emphasised the purely spiritual, religious nature of the visit, thus denying Israel any opportunity to capitalise politically on that event. The Pope refused to meet the Israeli head of the state, Z. Shazar, in Jerusalem, but agreed to have the official reception at Majjido, outside Jerusalem. The official courtesy telegram sent by the Pope to the Israeli President stated "Mr. Zalman Shazar Tel-Aviv," intentionally refraining from mentioning Jer-

usalem or giving any semblance of legitimacy to the Israeli claim.

It is important to note the refusal of Pope Paul VI's diplomatic relations with Israel on April 1971, since that would violate the whole tenets which the "Prince of Peace" called for: love, justice and redemption.

Israeli aggressions in Palestine and Lebanon, Judaisation of Jerusalem, and organised massacres against Christians and Muslims, should make the Holy See silence all voices defending ties with Israel, the aggressor.

The spiritual disciples of Cardinal Pia and Cardinal Spellman caused the Roman Catholic Church in the Arab World or real big loss, spiritually and prestige-wise.

It is hoped that the Holy See will prove to be the embodiment of moral rectitude by

exposing the Israeli subterfuge of religious manipulation within the "curia". It is hoped that the Holy See will abide by His Holiness' sermon on Good Friday this year, April 20, 1984

— when he declared:

"The Palestinian people who find their historical roots in that land, and who for decades have been dispersed, have the natural right in justice to find once more a homeland, and to be able to live in peace and tranquility.... The Holy City strongly urges peace.... Now it continues to cause daily conflict, violence and partisan reprisals — The Roman pontiffs have witnessed the violent events which have afflicted Jerusalem for many decades."

It is hoped that the ideals of justice and humanity which the Vatican cherishes, will prevail against the powers of darkness which urge a reward for an Israeli aggressor.

It is to be admitted that the political turpitude in the area can not tolerate any more of Israel's subterfuge and escalating tension.

Could the Holy See be oblivious to the fact that Israel reduced the Arab Christian presence in Jerusalem to 35 per cent of its 1967 ratio? Could the Pope forget that the Israeli Mossad masterminded Christian-Muslim sectarian massacres in Lebanon: a wound which needs decades to heal? Could the Holy See violate the sanctity of Jerusalem by blessing — through recognition — the brutal desecrators of the Holy City? Could the Vatican, the incarnate of justice and love, flagrantly denounce the United Nations resolutions on Jerusalem? All Muslims hope that the Vatican is too far-sighted to commit such an insult to Arabs and Muslims.



Flick scandal shakes Germans' confidence in political system

By Roger Thurow

An influential voice

BONN — What if it all comes out?

That eerie question, referring to the snowballing campaign-financing and bribery scandal here, is reverberating loudly through West Germany's halls of power — both political and financial — as a second top-level government official struggles to save his career.

This time it is Rainer Barzel, president of the Parliament, who is frantically trying to defend himself against allegations that he received payments, in the form of a law firm salary, from the Flick industrial group. Four months ago, Economics Minister Otto Lambsdorff resigned when a Bonn court said it would open trial against him on charges that he received payments from Flick in exchange for granting tax breaks.

For the past three years, the scandal, dubbed the "Flick affair," has been gradually eating away at the conscience of the West German public with troubling tales of financial dealings between politicians and businessmen.

Now, daily reports of new facets of the scandal — and suspicions that they are only scratching the surface — are creating a credibility crisis not only for the present government but for the entire political system. Politicians returning to Bonn from their election districts say voters are questioning more than ever the relationship between business and government.

How power flows

"Revelations of the past few days give the impression that politics and politicians (in the country) can be bought, that the power of the state flows not from the people but from big money," top officials of the opposition Social Democratic Party, which also has been implicated in the affair, said in a statement last week.

Ottwin Lowack, a Christian Social Union parliamentarian from the Bavarian town of Bayreuth, says the mood among his voters reminds him of "the first act of the Goetterdaemmerung," the epic opera by Richard Wagner that depicts the death of the gods and the end of the world.

The Barzel case "has contributed heavy damage to the picture of parliamentarians in the republic," the Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung said in an editorial last week.

For the government of Chancellor Helmut Kohl, which has been squirming from one embarrassing political situation to another, the scandal is like a Chinese water torture, with incriminating details of actions by administration and party officials being leaked to the press drop by drop. Although the instances, taken individually, aren't likely to threaten the immediate existence of the Kohl government, they do, taken as a whole, paint a picture of a scandal-plagued and lax administration whose pilot can't steer clear of trouble.

For the political system as a whole, and for the West German business community, the Flick affair seems to be a time bomb of campaign financing investigations throughout the country — involving some 1,800 individuals and companies — that prosecutors say could eventually erupt into hundreds of tax evasion or money laundering indictments.

The Lambsdorff case, which also involves the head of Dresdner Bank and a former top manager at Flick, jangled plenty of nerves throughout the business scene, and the Barzel case has only heightened the anxiety of what may be yet to come.

According to reports that first appeared in the weekly news magazine Der Spiegel, and were later amplified elsewhere in the German press, Mr. Barzel allegedly received 1.7 million Deutsche marks (about \$560,000 at current exchange rates) from Flick during the 1970s while working at a law firm in Frankfurt. Although Mr. Barzel, as parliamentary president, isn't directly a member of the Kohl administration, he is an influential voice within the chancellor's Christian Democratic Union.

In addition, the allegations against Mr. Barzel indirectly brush the Chancellor, Der Spiegel and others, citing correspondence between the people involved, allege that the Flick payments were used to persuade Mr. Barzel to step aside as chairman of the Christian Democrats in 1973 to make way for Mr. Kohl. Mr. Barzel says the money was his proper salary, and he strongly denies any knowledge that the cash might have come from Flick. Mr. Kohl has angrily criticised the reports, calling them part of an intentional "defamation campaign."

Mr. Barzel appeared before a special parliamentary investigative committee last Wednesday and underwent questioning for four hours. So far, Mr. Barzel hasn't been officially charged with any wrongdoing. However, unless Mr. Barzel convinces the committee that he did nothing wrong, opposition party politicians have threatened to boycott any parliamentary sessions that he presides over and would seek his resignation. Mr. Barzel was elected to his post by a bipartisan majority, and any erosion of this support would make it difficult for him to remain in office.

Already, one parliamentary session broke down in chaos when two members of the Greens Party were ejected — the first such incident in 20 years — after using abusive language in an effort to spark debate on the Barzel issue. The government is hoping that Mr. Barzel can quiet the situation with a convincing defence of his position, or, failing that, a resignation.

But, beyond the Barzel case, it's doubtful that the government can keep the Flick affair out of the headlines. The conservative and liberal wings of the West German press are gleefully pointing fingers at politicians of the opposing ideology, making sure that every party is tarnished with the scandal brush.

Just the normal flow of news will probably be enough to keep the financing scandal in the public eye. The trial against Mr. Lambsdorff is scheduled to begin early next year. Also standing trial then will be Hans Friderichs, Mr. Lambsdorff's predecessor as economics minister and current chief of Dresdner Bank, who also is charged with receiving money from Flick in exchange for granting tax breaks; and Eberhard von Brauchitsch, the former chief manager of Friedrich Flick Industrie-Werk AG, who is charged with paying the bribes. All three men have denied any wrongdoing.

In addition, other less-glamorous trials around the country, most dealing with tax evasion on campaign contributions, are sure to spotlight what had been a seemingly widespread practice of making party donations through front organisations, set up as charities. The businesses and organisations then deducted the "charitable contributions" from their taxes. Direct contributions to a party, over a certain amount, are taxable.

Europeans are pulling for Reagan

By Michael Harrison

WASHINGTON — West Europeans, who have an impressive stake in the outcome of America's presidential election, had strong doubts about Ronald Reagan in 1980 but now are mostly in the Reagan camp because they find themselves in tune with his ideas, leadership style and policies.

President Reagan's popularity among America's partners partly reflects a new European skepticism about the role of government that makes the allies more sympathetic to his minimalist approach than to Walter F. Mondale's economic and social interventionism. This is true in countries where conservatives govern, such as Britain and West Germany, but also where moderate Socialists are at the helm, in France and Italy.

Moreover, the Reagan administration's market-based revival of U.S. economic growth is a

major boon for troubled European economies, which only now are being pulled out of the doldrums by America's locomotive and unprecedented trade deficits. Mr. Mondale's alliance with a besieged American labour force and his embrace of protectionism to save jobs raise fears abroad that the Atlantic free ride may abruptly end under a Democratic president.

Perhaps Mr. Reagan's major advantage for the allies is his proven ability to restore America's credibility as leader of the alliance. This role largely depends on the authority of the president himself. Europeans remember Jimmy Carter's failure in this respect and are relieved that his adroit successor has strengthened the alliance's political and military unity without the usual American resort to arrogant or heavy-handed manipulation of Atlantic affairs.

Part of Ronald Reagan's leadership success can be traced to the affability that makes him as popular abroad as at home, even if his European counterparts think that he is not their intellectual equal. After all, Jimmy Carter's superior grasp of the complex details of international issues seemed only to paralyse both him and his country. Mr. Mondale may be more capable than his former chief, but the allies prefer not to risk dealing with another confused Democratic administration.

Like Americans, the allies ask themselves if they feel more secure now than four years ago. After the Euromissile controversy, it might appear that they would agree with Mr. Mondale and many Americans who feel that Republican defence policies have not enhanced Western security but have increased tensions to dangerous levels. European leftists and the peace movement do agree with the Mondale analysis, but much of the public and most

policy-makers support Mr. Reagan's efforts to bolster U.S. and North Atlantic Treaty Organisation military strength against the Soviet menace.

Mr. Mondale's advocacy of a nuclear freeze and arms talks without conditions provoke little enthusiasm among most allied governments, who privately concur with the Reagan administration and no longer expect arms negotiations to produce significant results. Europeans might benefit from the Mondale proposal to ban weapons from space, a move that would enhance the deterrent value of earthbound British and French nuclear forces. But they also fear that Mr. Mondale's determination to reach some kind of arms agreement with Moscow might lead him to seek constraints on independent European forces as the price of a super-power deal. Mr. Reagan resisted giving the Russians this advantage at the Geneva talks.

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policy-makers support Mr. Reagan's efforts to bolster U.S. and North Atlantic Treaty Organisation military strength against the Soviet menace.

Italy cracks down on its godfathers

The Italian government has recently started tackling the country's entrenched Mafia with more resolve, backed by more substantial weapons. James Buxton reports on the nature of the struggle and its limited successes.

ROME — The Park Philip Hotel is not on many people's list of the best hotels in Italy. It is in the town of Patti in eastern Sicily, whose only claim to fame until now was as the birthplace of the convicted swindler Michele Sindona.

But now the Park Philip has an important if unwilling guest. He is Vito Ciancimino, former mayor of Palermo, and he is obliged to stay there at least until the end of this month on the orders of a judge, in a kind of internal exile.

To many Italians he is the most significant victim of the roundup of Mafia suspects a few weeks ago — which were triggered by the confessions of Tommaso Buscetta, the first Mafia boss in years to break the organisation's oath of silence and incriminate his colleagues.

Buscetta was not the Godfather. He is said to be a "third echelon" boss. But his confessions enabled Italian police to arrest about 60 leading gangsters, while a further 30 were temporarily rounded up in the U.S. His evidence will also be used to try to convict many more who are already in jail.

What Buscetta did was give the Italian magistrates an exceptional view from the inside of how the Mafia operates both in Italy and

the U.S. He told what he knew of the many brutal operations he had personally been involved in. The Italian and U.S. authorities, now hope that the process will snowball: that as more of the picture of the international criminal organisation's activities is filled in, further arrests can be made, interrogation of those held can be made to yield more, and other Mafia bosses may be persuaded to talk.

Eventually, they hope, a state of "critical mass" might be reached where police know so much that massive arrests can be made, and the frontiers of the Mafia rolled back. For the moment, this is little more than a hope.

The exile of Patti of Vito Ciancimino (Don Vito as he is called) is a tiny but crucial part of this process. He is not thought to be a gangster but rather to be part of that super-structure of compliant or conniving politicians who allow the Mafia to survive as a deeply entrenched Italian institution. Hitherto such men have been even more untouchable than the big bosses they protect.

But not any more. Ciancimino has been a leading figure in the Christian Democrat establishment in Sicily, the island's dominant party. The man ultimately responsible for his detention — as investigations of his activities go ahead — is Mr. Oscar Luigi Scalfaro, the Christian Democrat minister of the interior and one of the most important figures in the party. Nothing could better demonstrate the new determination of the Italian authorities to tackle the Mafia.

There are two reasons for this. One is that in the past 15 to 20 years the Mafia has become so powerful and malign a force that it is no longer possible for governments to plead — with some conviction — their impotence. Even as late as the 1960s it was often described in books as something sinister but slightly romantic, a band of "men of honour" whose existence could be blamed on the poverty of the island long dominated by aliens. It was even argued that its grip on the Sicilian countryside imposed order of a kind.

The new Mafia has kept its highly effective tradition of omertà — the oath of silence about crimes and suspicious goings on — but little else. It is now an urban affair. Since the war it has moved into smuggling, racketeering, kidnapping, receiving stolen property and speculative building — transforming Palermo from a once attractive Mediterranean city into a dusty boomtown of tower blocks and traffic jams.

The Mafia has spread its tentacles all over Italy, but where it really struck gold was with drugs. The Sicilian Mafia is now reckoned to control much of the heroin traffic in Europe, and with its U.S. cousins, well over half the heroin trade in the north-east part of the U.S. — the world's richest heroin market. "Some of the best brains in the world seem to be working out ever-more ingenious ways of smuggling the stuff," says one official.

Estimates of the value to the Sicilian Mafia of this commerce vary wildly but foreign financiers visiting Rome recently were astonished to be told by a senior banker: "You don't want to believe Italy's GDP figures — they don't include our drugs industry."

Whatever the figures, the wealth generated by the trade has been almost embarrassing to the Mafia, its pyramid structure and code of honour — designed to settle disputes between the different gangs — have become strained under the force of greed: warfare between gangs has killed about 500 people in and around Palermo this decade. For years the authorities hoped that the pressure would lead to a Mafia boss cracking. The man who did talk, Buscetta, decided to do so, it seems, to obtain revenge and to protect what remained of his family after several of his children and relations had been killed by rival gangs. — Financial Times news feature.

Systematic harassment of trade unions in the occupied territories

ON AUGUST 25, 1984 Ali Abu Hilla, the secretary of the General and Public Institutions Workers Union in Abu Dis, near Bethlehem, was arrested by Israeli security forces. He has been accused of breach of a special surveillance order (i.e. town arrest), and of "possession of inciting literature", though until Sept. 5 no charges were brought against him.

This action against Ali Abu Hilla is only one in a continuing series of Israeli harassments against Palestinian trade union activists in the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip areas. Ali Abu Hilla has himself more than once been the victim of such harassment.

Under Israeli rule, Palestinian trade unions in the West Bank have been denied the ability to operate effectively. Since the Israeli occupation in 1967, military rule and the attempt to crush any expression of autonomous Palestinian political action have exacerbated an already repressive situation.

Inside Israel, workers are organized in the General Federation of Workers (Histadrut). It was only in 1966 that the Histadrut dropped the word "Hebrew" from its title, and permitted Arab membership. In the territories occupied in 1967, the Histadrut does not operate as a trades union — though, as a major employer and contractor, it is centrally involved in Israeli economic activity in these areas.

In the West Bank prior to 1967, workers were organized in the General Federation of Trades Unions. Since 1967, many of these have remained closed by order of

the Israeli military authorities: the bankers, municipal workers, painters and masons, tourist guides, tourism workers, bank clerks, and coiffeurs unions in Jerusalem; the Stonecutters, General Institutions and Municipal Workers, and General Service Workers Unions in Hebron; and the Nabulus Bank Clerks Union.

Legal Restrictions

No new unions have been permitted to open or to join the Federation. Applications for permission to form a union are generally ignored. Electricity workers in Ramallah, for instance, have been waiting for over two years for a reply to their request to form a union. The operation of the existing unions is seriously hampered by legal obstacles. Notable among these is military Order 825 from 1980. This order, which amends article 63 of the Jordanian Labour Law, gives the military governor the authority to approve lists of candidates for union office, to remove candidates from the lists, and even to annul the election results. Most unions have refused to comply with this order. This, in effect, means that they are operating illegally, and all of their actions and decisions could be declared invalid.

This order has been used frequently to disrupt elections and general meetings of trades unions. For instance, on June 10, 1983, Israeli police, army and security forces raided a general meeting of the Hebron Metal Workers Union, called to arrange new elections. Three members of the union executive — Yassin Al-

Kawasm, Ahmad al-Bakri, and Said Abu Halawa — were arrested, and all of the Union's books and records were seized. The three people arrested had supported the holding of new elections, while another three executive members present at the time, who had opposed the calling of new elections, were not arrested. As their lawyer has stated, "the immediate conclusion is that the government ... has intervened arbitrarily in the administration of democratic elections, with a purpose and for reasons known only to itself."

On the same day, security forces twice raided the office of the Building Workers Union in Hebron. Radwan Nimr Ziaideh, chairman of the union, was arrested, and security forces also seized the union's entire library, all the documents and accounts, two safes, six sports trophies, five folk-dance costumes, and several pictures. During the raids, two doors, several cupboards, a table, and three windows were broken. That day and the next, a further six union members were arrested. The union's lawyer has been waiting over a year for a reply to a letter requesting compensation for the damage caused.

Israeli military patrols and roadblocks attempted to disrupt elections at the Abu Dis Union Centre on January 28, 1984. Several workers were stopped, and not permitted to take part in the elections. On the same day, the Hotel Workers Union was raided while elections were taking place.

Another form of harassment faced by unions is the threat of closure, either direct or indirect.

As well as the above-mentioned unions, which have not been permitted to reopen at all since 1967, some unions, which were originally permitted to reopen, have since been closed for varying periods. These include the General Institutions Workers Union in Arrabeh near Jenin (closed since February 4, 1984); the Construction and General Institutions Workers Union in Ramallah (frequently closed; on three separate occasions in 1983); and the Construction Workers Union in Bethlehem (closed since 1982).

Indirect pressure is also used in an attempt to close unions. Owners of premises used by unions, for instance, have been threatened that buildings will be destroyed, or considered absentees' property, and thus subject to state seizure, if the unions do not move. Such pressure last year forced the Abu Dis General and Public Institutions Workers Union to move its offices; several other unions have reported similar harassment.

Trade unionists in prison

Union activists are frequently arrested and convicted on political charges. Ali Abu Hilla, mentioned above, served 11 months in gaol in 1983, after being convicted of membership in an illegal organisation. Others who have received gaol sentences for similar "offences" include Nabil Abu Siriyeh, Secretary of the Jerusalem Press Workers Union (two years) and Mahmoud Ziaideh, secretary of the Hebron Public Institutions and Construction Workers Union (currently serving a 10 month sen-

tence). In a major trial still proceeding, 17 members of the Jerusalem Building Workers Union have been charged with membership in, or connections with an illegal organisation. The unionists agree that they met together as a separate group, to hold political discussions, and that politically they held a position close to that of the organisation, but they insist that they engaged only in political discussion, and deny any illegal activity. They are, in fact, on trial for their views.

The following have already been convicted and sentenced: Kazem Mar'i (18 months); Assad Ghazali (one year); Walid Mahawas (nine months); Salim Abu 'Eid (one year, plus one activated from a previous provisional sentence); Salman Abu 'Eid (14 months); Barbi el-Hader (two years); Nasser Shakir (15 months); and Ahmad Ashkirat (15 months). The trials are still continuing of Salameh Khalsa, Mahmoud Salameh, 'Amran Mansour, Abdullah Zahran, Jibril Abdullhaneh, Abu Shaghadan, Khamis Mahmud, Haili Abu El-Daba'at, and Yusef Shamasm.

As well as direct political activity, other political work may lead to arrest. For instance, Faisal Wusuf was arrested at a meeting in Nablus in 1981 of the General Federation of Trades Unions, while distributing a leaflet opposing Military Order 825. Charged with incitement, he was fined \$200. Mohammad Abdul-Ghani Sonokrot of the Food Industry Workers Union, was also fined for conviction for incitement. A number of members of the Restaurant, Hotel and Cafe Workers

Union were fined for distribution of a May Day leaflet and poster in 1981.

Special surveillance orders

Another form of harassment against union activists is the imposition of special surveillance orders — i.e. town arrest. Such orders are imposed by the military governor, and restrict a person to the borders of his/her town by day, and to his/her own house by night. A person under town arrest must report to the police at fixed intervals, at least once a week. In some cases, people have had to report to the police twice a day, and may be kept waiting two-three hours each time. Although an appeal is possible against a town arrest order, the military governor may bring secret evidence, which is not made known to the defence, and cannot therefore effectively be challenged. Appeals to have these orders abolished are not usually successful, but the Appeals Committee often suggests changes in the orders to make the conditions less harsh.

Unionists presently or recently under town arrest include Nabil Asiriyeh, Ali Abu Hilla, Mahmoud Ziaideh (since 1980), Adel Chahm (General Secretary of the GFTU), Yunis Tayem (Hebron Woodworkers Union), and Hassan Barghuti (of the Restaurant, Hotel and Cafe Workers Union). Amel Wahidan, treasurer of the Abu Dis Public Institutions Workers Union, was placed under town arrest in December 1983. She was pregnant at the time, and petitioned the Appeals Com-

mittee. In February 1984, before her appeal was heard, the order was withdrawn.

Town arrest is employed against active members of the professional, as well as manual, trades unions. People recently or presently affected include Ibrahim Dakkak (Engineers Union), Jirys Khouri (ex-chairman, Bar Association), Jamil Othman (chairman, Bar Association) and Hamdi Farraj and Radwan Abu Aiyesh (Executive Committee, Journalists' Association).

Active unionists may be prevented from travelling abroad. Such bans apply, for instance, to Adel Ghanem, and to Shehadi Minawi, head of the West Bank's second Trade Union Federation, formed after a 1981 split in the GFTU. Others, such as Ibrahim Dakkak, a resident of East Jerusalem, annexed to Israel, are banned from travel in the West Bank itself. As well as forming part of the attempt to isolate them, such bans add to the difficulty in raising and distributing funds for union work.

Widespread intimidation

Petty everyday harassment is also used in an attempt to discourage union membership. Road blocks, raids on premises, demands to produce identity cards, summons to police investigations — all these are common occurrences for unionists, as for all residents of the occupied territories. Additionally, unionists are frequently fired from work, particularly in Israeli-owned factories. Mohammad Sonokrot of

the Carpentry Workers Union, was fired from three workplaces in 1983 because of union activity.

As with other spheres, the situation in the Gaza Strip is even more repressive. All unions were dissolved in 1967, and their reopening was only permitted in 1978, after a visit from the International Labour Organisation. Since then, no new unions have been permitted to form. Further, only workers who were union members before 1967 are permitted to join unions now. Thus, with a workforce of over 100,000, there are only about 300 union members. The membership is, of course, aging, and the younger activists are left outside.

The military-appointed head of the Gaza unions is a major employer, who owns a factory and a fleet of taxis. He is not trusted by union activists.

Like all residents of the occupied territories, trades unionists face the problems of land expropriation, deprivation of resources, arbitrary oppression and discrimination. But they are also oppressed as workers, and, unlike workers in Israel, they are denied the right to organise against this oppression. Both through fear of any political action on the part of the occupied population, and in order to maximise the exploitation of the occupied population as a labour force, the Israeli authorities suppress trade union activity in these areas. This paper shows some of the means used — This paper, received from the office of Israeli Advocate Lea Tsemel, is circulated by the Council for the Advancement of Arab-British Understanding, London.

Philippine typhoons price of deforestation

Rapid deforestation made the recent Philippines typhoons much worse than they need have been. But there is little evidence that anything can slow down the tree-cutting.

By Manolo B. Jara

MANILA — President Marcos probably summed it up best when he described the scene as "landscapes of a battlefield". He was commenting on the scene of damage and destruction that greeted him as he viewed from the air the damage wrought to Mindanao Island by typhoon "Nitinang" in early September.

About 1,000 people were reported killed, and there was heavy loss of property, roads, and power and communications lines.

Typhoon "Nitinang", at its peak gusting at 275 kilometres per hour, slammed into Surigao del Norte province in northeastern Mindanao. Within two hours it caused unprecedented damage, which one official said would take years to rebuild.

The scene of damage and destruction was repeated earlier — although on a much lesser scale — when typhoon "Maring" roared through the Northern Luzon uplands and Central Luzon, also in early September.

Both disasters taught the Philippines yet again that it has paid, and will continue to pay, a high price for the heavy damage done to its precious forest cover by indiscriminate logging and slash-and-burn farming. In a typhoon, 90 per cent of the victims die by drowning, and the floods which accompanied typhoons Maring and Nitinang were far worse than they would have been if trees had stood in the way of the water.

The aftermath of the two ty-

phoons has raised renewed condemnation of wildcat logging in the Luzon and Mindanao calamity areas. A few local people have made fortunes through logging, but most of those who benefited from the region's forest wealth are the absentee logging operators who live in luxury mansions in Manila and supervise their operations by long distance.

Philippine forests are being destroyed at the rate of two hectares per hour, certainly one of the fastest in the world. And the United Nations predicts that, if present trends continue, all the virgin dipterocarps, the family to which mahogany belongs, will have disappeared by the year 2000.

If existing patterns in the forest prevail, a consortium of Philippine research organisations says that all original old-growth forests will have been cut down by the year 2000. Projected timber supplies from second-growth forests and plantations will not be enough to meet even the country's domestic needs.

A report from the Southeast Asian Research Centre of the Graduate School in Agriculture (SEARCA) estimates that the annual domestic demand for wood will be seven million cubic metres more than the Bureau of Forest Development predicts the nation will produce for that year. Filipinos will thus have to import a commodity they have been exporting for a long time.

The floods in Northern Luzon following Typhoon Maring are causing local authorities to take



"On the other hand, if it weren't for the deforestation, we wouldn't have any logs to cling to."

another hard look at what remains of the region's forest resources.

Forests are being depleted there at the rate of 2.5 per cent a year, according to a joint study by the Bureau of Forest Development and the Regional Development Council. Forests cover 52 per cent of northern Luzon, but 24 per cent of this is either already logged out or in need of upgrading. As a result, the study warns that within the next 50 years, the "destructive effects to the regional ecology and environment will have accumulated to an irreversible point."

The study adds: "Costs in damages to lowland forests, agricultural crops and settlement areas, reduced watershed outputs, siltation of major rivers, irrigation

systems and hydroelectric dams as well as annual damage to regional physical infrastructure, will far outweigh the preventive investment in reforestation."

Four main factors have been behind the destruction of forests in the region, according to the study: production of logs, timber, lumber and raw materials for the manufacture of pulp paper; forest clearing for agricultural and industrial uses; accidental fires; the gathering of fuelwood for household, agricultural and industrial uses (tobacco curing and fuelling wood-burning electric power stations).

Meanwhile, the financially-strapped Marcos government has been having trouble helping the typhoon victims, but at the same

time has declined to ask for outside assistance. This was confirmed by a high-ranking United Nations official based in Manila.

"Is the government attitude (of not seeking assistance) a matter of national pride?" asked the official, who requested anonymity. He said that if officially asked, the U.N. could "easily" mobilise its resources and provide funds and materials to help the victims.

But there are two reasons for the government's embarrassment: first, it does not have the funds to help the victims. Second, it was due to government forestry policies — or the lack of them — that the typhoons were so damaging and claimed so many more victims than they need have done — Earthscan feature.

Survivors gather at El Alamein

By Judith Miller

EL ALAMEIN, Egypt — Forty-two years ago this week, as a full moon illuminated an expanse of relentlessly flat desert by the sea, the battle of El Alamein began.

Half of all people alive today had not been born then. But father and history books describe General Bernard Law Montgomery's rout of Germany's Desert Fox, Field Marshal Erwin Rommel.

The battle, which lasted from Oct. 23 to Nov. 4, 1942, was a World War II milestone. Nazi Germany, which had never lost a major battle, would never win one again. Montgomery's Eighth Army pushed Rommel's Africa Corps back into Libya and foiled his plan of conquering Alexandria, Cairo and the Suez Canal before pressing on to the Gulf oil fields.

But the price of victory was high. In a region that has known much bloodshed before and since, the carnage of El Alamein has rarely been equaled in battle.

Last Sunday, representatives of the former warring nations and veterans gathered at El Alamein, as they do each year, to honour the 13,560 Commonwealth soldiers killed, wounded and listed as missing, and the 59,000 Germans and Italians killed, wounded or captured.

The ceremonies at the British, German and Italian memorials have always been simple affairs. El Alamein's remoteness — 75 miles (120 kilometres) by poorly paved road from Alexandria and six hours by sturdy car from Cairo — have deterred all but the most ardent veterans, history buffs, military attaches and diplomats.

The British, Italian and German memorials are strikingly beautiful, simple structures, each a ref-

lection of very different national characters. The British cemetery is as well-manicured as a country garden; the Italian memorial is soaring and majestic as an ancient cathedral; the German monument is eloquently austere as a medieval fortress, which it resembles.

"The price of pride is high, and paid by the young," says an inscription on the German memorial.

The three governments rotate as host of the major commemorative ceremony. This year Italy presided. Giancarlo Izzo, Italy's consul-general in Alexandria, said it was an Italian who started the campaign to commemorate El Alamein.

Paolo Caccia Dominioni, Count of Sillavengo, who fought in the battle, returned after the war to help bury the dead. Aided only by a few Bedouins, he lived in the desert for almost a decade, collecting and burying the remains of soldiers of all nationalities.

In the early 1950s, he began raising money for a memorial for Italy's dead. In 1956, the project began, paid for by the Italian government.

What emerged was a majestic structure, a white marble edifice overlooking the sea. A giant cross hangs on the wall closest to the water, illuminated only by the light that filters in from the dome 140 feet (42.5 metres) above.

The footprints of the occasional visitor and the murmur of the reading of the names of the dead echo on the marble stones. The desert winds whistle through the mausoleum, as if in mourning for the fallen Italian, Italy's fallen, inscribed on the memorial's facade.

Italy's defence minister, Giovanni Spadolini, flew in by helicopter from Alexandria for the service Sunday. After the cer-

emony a member of his entourage, the secretary-general of the Italian Defence Ministry, charged off into the desert in search of places where his unit had fought, despite Egyptian warnings that there were still mines beneath the sand.

The night before the ceremony, 47 members of Major and Mrs. Tonie Holt's Battlefield Tours — "Europe's leading Battlefield Tour Specialists," according to their advertising brochure — arrived at the El Alamein Hotel.

Many on the tour had fought in the battle, and as the hour grew late and the wine carafes empty, they reminisced.

"I've been saving for five years for this trip," said Michael Lee, who fought in the desert war between 1940 and 1943. "I wanted to come back. I felt I owed it to my friends who died here. But after all these years, I still don't know. The casualties were so high. Were all those deaths necessary?"

Donald Reid, who was captured by the Germans at Bir Hakeim in Libya, said: "We had to attack. Rommel could have been resupplied."

Earlier that day, the Reids and other visitors attended a public ceremony given by the British. Two buglers played and ambassadors laid wreaths near the base of a tall marble cross, visitors wandered among the graves of the 7,367 men buried in the Commonwealth cemetery.

An old Greek woman stood silently in front of a tombstone at the far end of the cemetery. After some minutes she laid a homemade wreath against the marker. It was one of the 85 graves of unidentified men. "A soldier of the 1939-45 war," the inscription read. "Known Unto God" — New York Times.

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Marathon officials consider tougher medical requirements

NEW YORK (R) — Shaken by the first death in its 15-year history, New York marathon officials will consider strengthening medical requirements by entrants in future races.

Race director Fred Lebow said Monday possible changes will be discussed with "our medical people" because of the death of French runner Jacques Bussereau during Sunday's race.

Bussereau, 48, a teacher, was pronounced dead in hospital after collapsing some 15 miles (24 kms) into the 26-mile, 385-yard (42.195 kms) race. Dr. Anders Rodriguez, the race medical director, said Bussereau was believed to have died of a heart attack, but that an autopsy would be performed when his body is returned to France Monday night.

Lebow said that contrary to earlier reports, Bussereau had not suffered a heart attack in the past. "We talked to his wife last night, and she said he had not suffered a heart attack, as we were led to believe."

"Mr. Bussereau was between 15 and 20 pounds overweight, and had been a heavy smoker until he took up running five years ago," Lebow told a press conference.

Lebow said Bussereau had run in four previous marathons. "He had predicted he would run here in about 4 hours and 12 minutes and was at a 4:10-4:20 pace when he collapsed," Lebow added.

Rodriguez said medical att-

endants from a first aid station about half a mile away rushed to Bussereau's side and gave him oxygen and other treatment before an ambulance arrived.

Rodriguez said he was uncertain if the unseasonable 74 degree heat and high humidity could have been a factor in Bussereau's death.

"Any runner can have trouble on a hot day," the doctor said. "Older runners usually don't because they slow down their pace when it's hot," he said. "It's the middle-aged runners who do, since they push themselves in trying for a personal best."

Proof of physical fitness is not required of competitors in the New York marathon. "It's just not practical to have 18,000 people checked out," Rodriguez said.

Scores of runners were treated for heat exhaustion during and after Sunday's race. But Lebow said that to the knowledge of race officials, none were admitted to hospitals.

Of the 16,315 runners who began the race, 14,492 finished. Last year, when the temperature was about 20 degrees cooler, 14,456 of the 15,193 completed the run.

Sunday's surprise winner, Italian Orlando Pizzolato, 26, finished in two hours 14 minutes and 53 seconds, the slowest winning time since 1975. But that did not diminish his joy at his first marathon win in 14 tries.

Speaking both in halting English and through an interpreter, Pizzolato, 27th last year, said he celebrated winning what he called "the most famous marathon in the world" by drinking champagne with friends at his hotel and receiving congratulatory phone calls from family and friends, including his girl friend.

"I only got five hours sleep, and I'm more tired today than I was at end of the race," the physical therapy student said.

Grete Waitz of Norway, who won the women's event for the sixth time in the last seven years, said she considered dropping out early in the race because of a severe case of diarrhoea.

"It started to take away from my concentration," said the 31-year-old Waitz, whose time of 2:29:30 was two minutes 30 seconds slower than her winning time last year. "Then later I developed cramps in my legs, and I had to convince myself to go on. I made the mistake of drinking too much fluids before the race."

"I'm very competitive, and yesterday my hardest competition was against myself," Waitz said.

Britain has a glimmer of hope against U.S. in Wightman Cup

LONDON (R) — Once every few years, Britain's women tennis players manage to make a contest of the annual confrontation with the U.S. in the Wightman Cup.

More occasionally, usually on home soil, they actually win. And this week, despite the presence in the U.S. side of world number two Chris Evert Lloyd, there are high hopes it might just be one of Britain's years.

The Americans have won the last five times and 45 out of 55 since the competition began in 1923, but Britain may just be due for some success at the stately Royal Albert Hall starting this Thursday.

The arena, an imposing edifice better known as a concert hall, was the scene of the last British triumph in 1978, when the home side won 4-3 after a doubles victory by Virginia Wade and Sue Barker over Lloyd and Pam Shriver in the final match.

The Americans do not take defeat lightly. They regained the trophy in 1979 by a margin of 7-0, a drubbing they inflicted on the British again in 1981. Britain have

done only slightly better on their own ground since then, losing 5-2 and 6-1 in 1980 and 1982 before going down 6-1 last year in Williamsburg, Virginia.

The British are pinning their hopes on the fact the U.S. team is far weaker than many they have fielded in the past.

Though Lloyd brings a remarkable unbeaten record of 22 Wightman Cup singles victories into the event — she has lost four doubles matches — the rest of the American team has a distinctly moderate look about it.

With Martina Navratilova and world number three Pam Shriver otherwise committed, and fifth-ranked Kathy Jordan forced out by injury, the other front-line Americans are Barbara Potter, ranked 19th, and Alycia Moulton, drafted in last week to replace Jordan and 21st on the computer.

They are backed up by veteran Sharon Walsh and the untied Gretchen Rush. With Jordan out, Potter is expected to be given the second singles role with Moulton as number three.

Britain field their best possible

team, headed by a Jo Durie and Anne Hobbs and backed up by former Wimbledon champion Virginia Wade, the team captain, and the young Annabel Croft and Amanda Brown.

Durie spearheads the squad and though she has fallen 10 places in the rankings this year to number 15, there are signs she is returning to her 1983 playing level.

Changes in her style have left Durie less effective than she was last year, when she reached the semifinals of the French and U.S. Opens, but she was not downhearted by a 6-4, 6-4 quarterfinal loss to eventual winner West German Sylvia Hanika in the Brighton Grand Prix last week.

Hobbs did better in taking Hanika to three sets, and she has had enough good results this year to be ranked 40th in the world.

Wade, 39, should have enough experience to contain Moulton — if both are selected to play number three singles — and if she does the two doubles matches will be crucial.

Wimbledon announces profits

WIMBLEDON, England (AP) — Profits from this year's Wimbledon Tennis Championships rose by 35 percent to a record £4.25 million (\$5.1 million), the All England Club announced Tuesday.

Announcing the surplus, All England chairman Buzzer Hadingham said the majority of the increase had come from ticket sales to a record crowd of 391,000, and from a steep rise in broadcasting and television fees.

Profits from the 1983 championships, themselves a record at the time, were £2.75 million, then worth just over \$4 million.

"We were very lucky," said Hadingham who took over the chairmanship this year from Sir Brian Burnett. "We had marvellous weather, record crowds and virtually no unpleasant incidents."

As usual, the entire surplus is to be handed over to Britain's Lawn Tennis Association (LTA) for the

development of the game in this country. The largest individual share will go promoting tennis in schools.

Announcing the financial results at a press conference, Hadingham said at least £400,000 of the surplus could be attributed to the favourable dollar-sterling exchange rate.

Most of this came from broadcasting and television costs in the 90 nations that covered the tournament but Hadingham added cautiously: "This is not a factor on which we can rely in the future."

Hadingham lamented the amount of tax the LTA will have to pay on the money. Of the gross £4.25 million figure, some 1.5 million will have to be paid in corporation tax.

He said the British government should "realise the attraction of Wimbledon from a tourist point of view" and lower the amount of taxation enforced.

Blomqvist out to secure title

ABIDJAN (R) — Sweden's Stig Blomqvist will be out to secure the world title when the Ivory Coast Motor Rally begins here Wednesday.

Blomqvist leads the drivers' championship by 23 points from Finland's Markku Alen after both drivers pulled out of the previous event, the San Remo Rally.

But Alen is not competing here, presenting Blomqvist with the chance to secure the world title in the penultimate round of the championship.

Reigning champion Hannu Mikkola of Finland, currently third in the standings, has no chance of retaining the crown but has been entered by Audi in a bid to finish second overall.

Blomqvist, who also drives an Audi, will be anxious to return to winning ways in the three-stage Ivory Coast event, contested over 4,100 km of some of the world's

most demanding terrain. Race officials say that unlike last year, when drought hit the whole of West Africa, this year's 64 drivers will have to contend with sodden tracks, broken bridges and fallen trees during the five-day rally, which includes 56 timed sections.

The rally's first overnight stage is from Abidjan to Ivory Coast's new capital, Yamoussoukro, in the heart of this West African state via the eastern town of Bouakou.

Competitors are due to leave Yamoussoukro at midnight next Thursday and to return there on Friday after passing through Daloa and Divo in the centre-west of the country.

They will leave Yamoussoukro next Saturday morning for the final gruelling 25-hour stage through the port of San Pedro and back to Abidjan.

Soviet coach says transfer Seoul games to Europe

MOSCOW (R) — A top Soviet Olympic coach was quoted Tuesday as saying the decision to hold the 1988 summer Olympics in Seoul should be reviewed while there is still time.

Chief free-style wrestling coach Ivan Yarygin, wrote in the daily Sovetsky Sport that the choice of the South Korean capital "caused a lot of doubts."

So far the Soviet Union, which boycotted this year's Los Angeles Olympics citing fears for its athletes' safety, has not said whether it will go to Seoul.

A Soviet Olympic official said earlier this month that there were still four years to go and the matter had not yet been discussed. Tuesday's article was the first clear Soviet indication that Moscow has

reservations. Yarygin said he agreed with Italian Olympic Committee Chairman Franco Carraro that the 1988 games should be in Paris or Barcelona instead of Seoul.

"The lessons of Los Angeles must not be ignored," said Yarygin, a former Olympic champion.

The article is the first time a Soviet sports official has openly criticised Seoul as home for the 1988 games. The Soviet Union has no official ties with South Korea.

Yarygin said many people had been concerned by the decision three years ago to stage the games in Seoul and that events since then had done nothing to dispel those doubts.

South Korea denies talks with North on sharing Olympics

SEOUL (R) — South Korea denied Tuesday that North and South Korean officials were discussing the possibility of holding some events at the 1988 Olympic Games in the North.

A foreign ministry spokesman said foreign press reports that officials of the two sides were secretly discussing the idea were totally groundless and false.

The reports said there had been informal contacts between the two

sides in order to avoid a repetition of the Soviet-led boycott of the Los Angeles Olympics.

South Korea does not have diplomatic relations with communist countries, but has said it would invite all members of the International Olympic Committee (IOC) to the Seoul Games.

North and South Korea held three rounds of talks earlier this year on forming a single Korean team for Los Angeles.

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Soccer referee shot dead for slap in face

MONTPELLIER, France (R) — A referee slapped a youth in the face to make him leave a soccer pitch so the youth came back later and shot the referee dead during play, police said Monday.

Three youths, neither players nor spectators, had walked on to the pitch earlier during the weekend match between two local company teams and had refused to leave.

After the argument they went away, but the one who was slapped returned with a shotgun and fired twice at referee Jose Castro.

Poland looks for goal feast against Albania in cup match

MIELEC, Poland (R) — Poland will be aiming to extend their recent winning streak with a feast of goals against soccer minnows Albania in their World Cup European Group One qualifying tie Wednesday.

Despite the absence of injured midfielders Jan Karas and Marek Ostrowski, the Poles are confident they can boost their goal difference by improving on the 3-1 scoreline group rivals Belgium achieved against the Albanians two weeks ago.

Poland, third in the 1982 World Cup in Spain, have looked sharp in

their last three games, notching 2-0 victories in friendlies against Finland and Turkey scoring an impressive 3-1 win over Greece in their first World Cup qualifier.

The Poles are well aware they need a big win because only one team is guaranteed a place in the Mexico finals from the four-nation group, although another could squeeze through from the playoffs.

"The Albanians are fast and fit," said Poland's Italian-exile and master-tactician Zbigniew Boniek. "But their tactics often fall short," added the Juventus star.

Jahangir Khan hard pressed to triumph

WARRINGTON, England (R) — World Champion Jahangir Khan of Pakistan had to battle hard to beat Chris Dittmar of Australia 10-8, 10-8, 9-3 in the semifinals of the World Masters Squash Championship here Monday night.

Jahangir trailed 7-2 in the first game and 8-4 in the second before coming through to take both games from Dittmar, recently promoted to number two in the world rankings behind the 20-year-old Pakistani.

Disheartened by losing both games, Dittmar offered less resistance in the third.

In the final Jahangir will meet Stuart Davenport of New Zealand, who beat Gavin Briars of England 9-4, 10-8, 9-7 in the other semifinal.

In the women's singles, world number one Sue Devoy of New Zealand recovered brilliantly to defeat English defender Martine Le Moignan 4-9, 4-9, 9-4, 9-0, 9-0. A series of backhand drops into the corners carried Devoy to the third game and Le Moignan badly after that.

Devoy's opponent in the final will be English junior champion Lucy Soutter, winner Monday night by 9-4, 9-7, 9-7 over Australian Carin Clonda, a replacement for Lisa Opie of England, who was ill.

TODAY

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TIME

REAGAN LEADS IN POLL 54-30 (Time-Yankelovich opinion survey)
AN ELEGANT AFFAIR (Mitterrand visit to Britain)
GRIM HARVEST (USSR reports grain shortfall for sixth straight year)
SPRUNG. (French journalists freed by Afghans after strong protest from Paris)

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Tel: 22117

THE TYRANT

(Arabic)
(Colour)
Performances: 12-3 - 5:30-8

Cinema RAINBOW

Tel: 25155

SIX PACK

(Colour)
3:30 6:00 8:30 10:30 p.m.

Cinema ZAHARAN

Tel: 23171

THE BEGINNER

(Colour)
Performances: 12-3 - 5:30-8

Cinema OPERA

Tel: 23171

NIGHT MOON

(Colour)
Abdali, behind ALIA offices

Cinema PALESTINE

Tel: 22117

QURBANI Indian

THUNDER
American (Colour)
Performances: 12-3-7

Cinema RAGHADAN

Tel: 22198

THE BORDERS

(Colour)
"Arabia Film"
(Colour)
Performances: 12-3-5:30-8

Cairo's crackdown on black market causes shortage in foreign exchange

CAIRO (R) — Egypt is experiencing a shortage of foreign exchange, needed to finance private sector imports, as a result of a government crackdown on black market currency dealers, bankers said Tuesday.

They said the crackdown, combined with a seasonal drop in remittances from Egyptian workers abroad, has shrunk the supply of black market dollars and pushed the U.S. currency to record highs against the Egyptian pound.

Private importers rely almost exclusively on the black market for their hard currency needs.

Black market dealers Tuesday were quoting up to 1.40 Egyptian pounds per dollar from 1.25 pounds three weeks ago.

The dollar reached a previous peak of 1.27 pounds last spring. Last month, state prosecutor Ahmad Kader Ahmad imposed the assets of 18 currency

dealers and bank executives and banned them from travel after an inquiry into alleged illicit financial dealings.

Since then, several other currency dealers have been arrested in an apparent campaign to curb the black market and channel hard currency into the official banking system.

"People are afraid of dealing in the (black) market now," said one banker.

The result has been fewer dollars flowing into the country from Egyptian expatriates abroad, the country's largest source of foreign currency.

Workers abroad generally prefer to repatriate dollars through the black market, where they obtain more than the official incentive rate of 1.12 pounds to the dollar.

Remittances are traditionally less in autumn than in summer,

when workers come home on holiday, but the present decline is unusual, bankers added.

They said private sector importers, who rely on the black market for most of their hard currency needs, were finding it hard to pay outstanding letters of credit and banks were issuing fewer new ones.

Economy Minister Mustapha Kamel Said told reporters on Sunday the value of letters of credit opened so far this month for both the public and private sectors was four per cent higher than in the same period of Oct. 1983.

But bankers said this would indicate a significant drop in real terms since domestic inflation is running at a rate of between 20 and 30 per cent.

They said the higher cost of black market dollars could increase prices of some imported

goods and fuel inflation.

Egypt introduced the incentive rate of 1.12 pounds to the dollar last spring in an effort to siphon dollars from the black market.

But the widening gap between it and the black market rate has bankers wondering if workers without access to money changers will hold on to their earnings rather than use the banks.

The Court of Ethics, a tribunal set up by the late President Anwar Sadat to rule on cases of corruption and political dissent, began hearings last Saturday into the financial activities of the 18 bankers and money changers whose assets have been impounded.

It granted a request by defence lawyers to postpone further hearings until Dec. 1 to give them more time to study documents presented by the prosecution.

S. Arabia well placed to cut oil output

BAHRAIN (R) — Saudi Arabia, almost certain to take a significant share of OPEC production cuts being worked out by oil ministers in Geneva, is better placed to reduce its output than at any time in its recent history, oil industry and diplomatic sources said Tuesday.

They said higher production of natural gas since the start of the year has meant the kingdom's reliance on gas associated with production of light crude oil has been sharply reduced.

The change is a direct result of a programme started in January, to be completed early next year, to tie in to the country's master gas grid almost one billion cubic feet of non-associated gas a day, the sources said.

The move suggests that although Saudi production has been running at its lowest levels for 14 years — about 3.8 million barrels per day (b/d) in both September and October — it can cut back even further without affecting supplies of gas.

As the biggest producer in OPEC (Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries), oil industry sources say Saudi Arabia is likely to take most of the burden of a 1.5 million b/d cut in the group's 17.5 million production ceiling decided at the Geneva meeting to prop up sagging oil prices.

The gas is needed for Saudi Arabia's big petrochemical plants now coming on stream, for desalination plants and power generation and exports of Liquefied Petroleum Gas (LPG).

Even last year, Saudi officials were citing domestic demand for gas as a reason for high crude oil production although some of this was later found to be aimed for a floating stockpile.

This year there has been a transformation. "About 3.5 to four million b/d used to be regarded as the minimum Saudi production needed to provide enough gas," one Western diplomat said.

"Now that figure is much, much lower, although how much lower

is not quite clear. This gives them the flexibility they need to make all kinds of changes."

Answering questions at an oil conference in London this month Arabian American Oil Company (Aramco) President Ali Naimi said Saudi Arabia's minimum possible crude production was zero.

Other Saudi officials have indicated the flexibility to cut output exists now, where statements, the source of the non-associated gas is

between 600 million and 800 million cubic feet a day is now likely to be on stream.

Hitherto, most of Saudi Arabia's gas was used as a by-product of its light and heavy crude oil, which yields at least three times more gas per barrel than its heavy crude.

The sources said the tying in of the gas wells made it technically possible for the Saudi state oil firm Petromin to reduce the amount of

Ras Tanurah and of up to six days from the Red Sea terminal at Yanbu.

While Saudi Arabia may be technically well placed now to cut production, an output cut would put further pressure on an economy which already faces a difficult adjustment to lower oil revenues.

Some bankers believe lower government spending means a big shake-up in the country's construction industry, where signs of strain have already surfaced.

They say other sectors dependent on government support are also facing tougher times.

A \$13 billion budget deficit is forecast for the current financial year which began in April, and bankers say the Saudi authorities appear unwilling to stimulate the economy by expanding that deficit.

It has had a long-standing programme to reduce economic dependence on sales of crude oil. The result of that programme — new export refineries now coming on stream — will increase the country's export flexibility but have worried oil refiners in traditional oil refining areas such as Europe.

Meanwhile, Kuwait Tuesday welcomed the OPEC agreement reached in Geneva Monday night for a 1.5 million b/d cut in joint oil production.

Crown Prince and Prime Minister Saad Al Abdullah Al Sabah told reporters as he entered the national assembly (parliament) building: "I was pleased today after hearing the brothers (oil ministers) have agreed in their current meeting on an oil production ceiling. This is the right measure rather than touching on prices."

The agreement would restore strength and efficiency to the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries, the prince added.

Mr. Sanford Margoshes, an analyst with investment house Shearson Lehman/American Express, told Reuters the decision to cut output was "essential, but by itself it remains a quick fix."

Drought expected to boost wheat sales to Jordan, Syria and Iraq

BAHRAIN (R) — Drought conditions in Syria, Iraq and Jordan are expected to boost overall wheat sales to the Middle East in the coming year, Mr. Michael Schultz, Middle East director of U.S. Wheat Associates, said Tuesday.

He told Reuters that wheat and flour sales to the area for the 12 months from Oct. 1 could reach nearly 15 million tonnes, compared with normal sales of between 13 and 14 million.

Mr. Schultz said drought conditions were expected to push up wheat sales to Syria to 1.5 million tonnes from between 600,000 and 800,000 tonnes during the past year.

Wheat and flour sales to Iraq were expected to reach between

three and 3.5 million tonnes from 2.2 million, while wheat sales to Jordan could reach about 500,000 tonnes from 350,000.

Mr. Schultz noted Iraq has just signed a credit agreement for its first major purchase of flour from the United States, amounting to 125,000 tonnes.

Egypt is the biggest single market for U.S. wheat and flour in the area, and Mr. Schultz expected total demand this year to be around 6.2 million tonnes.

Mr. Schultz said because of a cutback in funding under the U.S. government commodity assistance programme, 1.5 million tonnes of U.S.-supplied wheat and flour would be taken under that programme, and the balance met through commercial buying.

Earlier this month, Egypt signed an agreement to import a maximum of two million and a minimum of 1.5 million tonnes of wheat from Australia over five years.

The pact granted Egypt credit facilities with a one-year grace period, MENA reported.

Mr. Schultz predicted the following overall sales for other Middle East countries during the coming year:

Turkey about one million tonnes of wheat, Gulf Arab states 700,000 tonnes of wheat, Sudan 500,000 tonnes of wheat and flour, North Yemen 400,000 tonnes of wheat and flour, Lebanon 300,000 tonnes of wheat and flour, and Cyprus 80,000 tonnes of wheat and flour.

Kenya is expected to take 250,000 tonnes of wheat, Mr. Schultz said.

Livestock exports by East African states cause price war in Gulf

BAHRAIN (R) — Drought-stricken East African states are exporting sheep to the Gulf in a move that could decimate their breeding flocks, trade sources in the Gulf said Tuesday.

The sources said a price war was currently under way in Kuwait due to the influx of sheep which was having a ripple effect through other Gulf Arab countries.

They said sheep were being exported by Kenya, Sudan, Ethiopia and Somalia in an apparent move to raise hard currency for grain imports.

"A lot of these sheep are breeding sheep and will play havoc with stocks in the future. They are decimating their breeding flocks apparently to buy grain," one source said.

Sources said sheep were currently selling around \$23 a head in Kuwait, whereas, a realistic price taking into account production and shipping costs would be between \$45 and \$60.

LONDON STOCK MARKET

LONDON (R) — Share prices ended firm after a quiet session and at 1500 the FTSE 100 index was up 7.3 at 1143.4.

Dealers noted small institutional demand tended to push prices higher despite pessimism about the outcome of Wednesday's talks aimed at resolving the miners' dispute. The banking sector firmed up to 10p in response to U.S. demand Tuesday.

Government bonds met fresh demand as sterling showed a steadier trend and dealers said official supplies of 11 per cent exchequer stock and the 9½ per cent treasury 1999 "taplets" were exhausted.

Further official supplies also saw the 9½ per cent treasury convertible stock 1988 exhausted at 94-13/16. The government broker has now sold off all of the £600 million of tranches of existing stock issued last Friday, dealers said.

Oils were firmer on developments coming out of the OPEC meeting with B.P. at 478 and Shell at 658 both adding 5p. Banks saw Midland up 7p at 359 on news it revised terms for Crocker National Bank. Gold shares were lower.

Thorn EMI rose 7p to 454 on speculation of a possible U.S. bid approach, while Jaguar rose 11p to 210 on market rumours of a settlement ahead of its industrial dispute Wednesday.

LONDON EXCHANGE RATES

LONDON (R) — Following are the buying and selling rates for leading world currencies and gold against the dollar at midday on the London foreign exchange and bullion markets Tuesday.

One sterling	1.2080/90	U.S. dollars
One U.S. dollar	1.3187/90	Canadian dollars
	3.0640/50	West German marks
	3.4540/55	Dutch guilders
	2.5160/70	Swiss francs
	61.83/86	Belgian francs
	9.3875/975	French francs
	1900.00/1902.00	Italian lire
	246.45/55	Japanese yen
	8.685/950	Swedish crowns
	8.8500/600	Norwegian crowns
	11.0575/675	Danish crowns
U.S. dollars	One ounce of gold	335.50/336.00

YOUR DAILY Horoscope

from the Carroll Righter Institute

FORECAST FOR WEDNESDAY, OCT. 31, 1984

GENERAL TENDENCIES: After a dull start early in the day, this can become a very exciting time to make some progress with your plans. Think of unusual things you like and include them in your life.

ARIES (Mar. 21 to Apr. 19) Fascinating friends have good suggestions that will help you gain your personal aims, so listen to them and follow through.

TAURUS (Apr. 20 to May 20) Good day to bring your finest talents to the attention of bigwigs. Originality and precision can pay off handsomely.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 21) You can make a new contact who is rather strange, but will lead you in the right direction. Your life can become more exciting.

MOON CHILDREN (June 22 to Jul. 21) A little novel activity can make you far more interesting to your loved one and greater happiness can result.

LEO (Jul. 22 to Aug. 21) Get into public work tactfully and make a fine impression on bigwigs. Add to the prestige you now enjoy.

VIRGO (Aug. 22 to Sept. 22) Show some originality at your work and impress higher-ups and co-workers more. If you sit all day, take exercise at night.

LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22) Enjoy recreations for which you have had little time of late. Be more sure of yourself and less dependent on others.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) Study your home well and see what should be done to improve it. Then have guests in and show that you are an excellent host.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21) Be more original in any writings or conversations and get better results. Use discriminating taste in choosing friends.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 20) Get into more unusual activities that will spice up your life. Make contacts now who can help you in the days ahead.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 to Feb. 19) Avoid one who may have an eye on your assets and cultivate those who can be of assistance to you.

PISCES (Feb. 20 to Mar. 20) You have some fine ideas how to confidentially get closer to those who mean a great deal to you. Please loved ones at home.

IF YOUR CHILD IS BORN TODAY... he or she will easily comprehend ideas and mechanisms and should go to the most modern schools. Your child will be quite different from most others, so permit full self-expression. One who will need many playmates.

THE Daily Crossword by Albert L. Misenko

ACROSS

1. Swift's group
2. Cuffs
3. Cuban coin
4. Resisted to
5. Certain
6. Canadian
7. Pigeon
8. Gray
9. Cloudlike mass
10. Temporary bed
11. Haggard
12. Harbore
13. Habit
14. Wheel covering
15. Roman cloak
16. Anemic-looking
17. Rattan worker
18. Imposing
19. Entrance
20. Jerome Kern creation
21. Flotsam
22. Relative
23. Haste
24. Desk items
25. Prison
26. Make a mistake
27. Dissolve
28. Decline
29. Violently
30. Fatty tissue
31. Elevator cage
32. Fire residue
33. One under par
34. Excite
35. Play for admiration
36. Indigenes
37. Culls
38. Scurvy
39. Certain
40. Scurvy
41. Intense
42. Reimbursed
43. Utters sweetly
44. Journey
45. Cleanser
46. Author's output
47. Cuts
48. Tiny puncture
49. Rattles
50. Tidy
51. Cutting tool
52. Bodge
53. Grossly stupid
54. Surface layers of earth
55. Lock of hair
56. Searches carefully
57. Kind of beer
58. Holloman or Carter
59. Residents
60. Tiny
61. Part of a ship

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Yesterday's Puzzle Solved

1. BRAINS 2. PLATE 3. LUNCH 4. EMAIL 5. ANNOUNCER 6. ENTERTAIN 7. PLACATE 8. TITANIUM 9. BIBLE ORIENT 10. GORD ANTHONY 11. KIDS MATIUSE 12. JAIL 13. DICK 14. OAK 15. OAT 16. BUN 17. ACHES 18. CHAIRS 19. PLOTS 20. AMUSING 21. POLICED 22. HALLIBLER 23. LIAIR 24. LEAST 25. SIOY 26. BROSE 27. TITIA

THE BETTER HALF. By Harris

"I signed up for Lamaze classes to help me deal with the pain of bill paying."

JUMBLE. THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME by Henri Arnold and Bob Lee

Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

LAMEY
REBAG
CHERAG
NIPURT

WHAT SOME BEARS SEEM TO DO IN WINTERTIME.

Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

Answer: "C-O-O-L-E-S-S-I-M-O-N-I-U-M"

(Answers tomorrow)

Yesterday's Jumble: PORGY FRIAR HORROR ESTATE
Answer: "Did you hear my last joke?" — "I HOPE SO"

Peanuts

THE BOOK OF JONAH IS MORE THAN A STORY ABOUT A BIG FISH...

IT'S ALSO A STORY OF STUBBORNNESS AND COMPASSION...

WHO WAS JOE NAH?

Mutt 'n' Jeff

HOW DO YOU LIKE THAT! ANOTHER BUS THAT WOULDN'T STOP FOR ME!

YOU JUST GOTTA KNOW HOW!

Andy Capp

AW, C'MON, JACKIE — JUST THE ONE!

I SAID NO! YOU'VE GOT TOO MUCH ON THE SLATE ALREADY!

YOU WANT TO BE CAREFUL, MATE! THERE'S OTHER PUBS, Y'KNOW!!

OH, DEAR, DEAR, HE'S THREATENING TO TAKE HIS DEBTS ELSEWHERE

Sports

news

Moscow imposes fuel embargo against Britain

MOSCOW (R) — The Soviet Union Tuesday put into effect a total embargo on fuel supplies to Britain in support of the long-running coalminers' strike there, a trade union official in Moscow said.

But the announcement of the cut-off coincided with a resolute condemnation of politically-inspired trade sanctions by Prime Minister Nikolai Tikhonov, and Western diplomats said they were astonished Moscow has taken such a step.

A spokesman for the Soviet Coalworkers' Union told Reuters that the embargo, announced by Union Secretary Alexander Belousov on state television Monday night, had been made effective at once.

"This covers all forms of fuel supplies to Britain. As is usual Soviet practice it came into force on the day after the official announcement," the spokesman said. Britain has imported substantial amounts of Soviet oil and small volumes of Russian coal in recent years, but Western diplomats said it would have no trouble finding alternatives in present market conditions.

The trade union spokesman said a decision to blockade supplies had been taken by the rel-

evant foreign trade organisations at the request of the Soviet Miners' Union.

Spokesmen for the oil and coal exporting agencies said they could not comment on the move.

Western diplomats said this indicated either that Moscow was trying to avoid making a more formal public announcement of the boycott or that Mr. Belousov had gone too far in outlining Soviet action.

"It could mean they will impose an embargo in practice but avoid saying anything from too senior a level, or it could suggest Mr. Belousov's statement is just for internal propaganda and will not mean much in practice," one diplomat commented.

A spokesman for the British embassy said it had been given no official notification of any trade restrictions.

Diplomats said they were particularly surprised that Moscow would announce an embargo against a Western country after furiously condemning past U.S. sanc-

tions on grain sales and supplies of technology for an East-West gas pipeline.

"It seems to be rather bad timing that this was announced just as Mr. Tikhonov was condemning embargoes," one said.

Meanwhile British newspapers Tuesday heaped abuse on miners' leader Arthur Scargill for seeking aid from Libya's Col. Muammar Qadhafi and predicted that the miners' cause could now be lost.

Three-quarters of Britain's 180,000 miners have been on strike since March in a fight against proposed pit closures and job losses.

The disclosure this week that the National Union of Mineworkers (NUM) sent its chief executive, Roger Windsor, to meet Col. Qadhafi to seek hard-ship funds for striking union members is seen as a bad blow for the miners and a major boost to the Conservative government.

British television screened pictures of Mr. Windsor embracing Col. Qadhafi and this has provoked widespread unfavourable comment.

The Daily Mirror, the only newspaper which supports the opposition Labour Party and the labour movement, said in an edi-

torial: "A hug and kiss from Col. Qadhafi is a poisonous embrace. The miners' cause may never recover from it."

"To send a union official into the arms of the crazy colonel was unbelievably stupid. To accept gifts, in money or goods, would be even worse."

The liberal Guardian said: "A NUM president who let his chief executive cavort with Col. Qadhafi on Libyan television is deeply foolish."

It called Mr. Scargill's approach to Libya "a monster gaffe".

In Britain memories are still fresh of London's break in diplomatic relations with Tripoli last April after shots fired from the Libyan embassy killed a policeman and wounded 10 anti-Qadhafi demonstrators.

The killing provoked public outrage in Britain and, as the Daily Telegraph commented Tuesday, "there is probably no international political figure who is held in greater odium in this country than Col. Qadhafi."

The Times, traditional voice of the British establishment, spoke in an editorial of "Scargill's willingness to consort with a regime so heavily involved with international terrorism."



PRESS CONFERENCE: French President Francois Mitterrand (left) and West German Chancellor Helmut Kohl during a press conference Tuesday following their talks (WP Wirephoto)

Gandhi: India will match arms sales to Pakistan

NEW DELHI (R) — Prime Minister Indira Gandhi said Tuesday India would step up arms imports and domestic defence production to match U.S. arms supplies to neighbouring Pakistan.

The Press Trust of India (PTI) news agency quoted Mrs. Gandhi as telling reporters at Bhubaneswar, capital of the eastern state of Orissa, that she was concerned over U.S. supplies of sophisticated weapons to Islamabad. India and Pakistan have fought

three wars since Independence in 1947. Traditionally uneasy links between the two countries have been further strained by Indian press reports of clashes along the border in the disputed territory of Kashmir.

The official Soviet News Agency TASS said Indian Defence Minister S.B. Chavan would arrive in Moscow later Tuesday at the invitation of the Soviet government.

'Pakistan, India on brink of arms race'

WASHINGTON (AP) — "Pakistan and India may be poised on the brink of a major nuclear arms race," because Pakistan has virtually acquired the ability to make an atomic bomb, a comprehensive new study said Tuesday.

Prospects for the spread of nuclear weapons "increased significantly" the past year, even though no atomic test was reported by any country outside of the five admitted nuclear weapons powers, said the report "Nuclear Proliferation Today," produced by the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace.

Nearly all of the eight "emerging nuclear weapons countries" — India, Pakistan, Israel, Libya, Iraq, Argentina, Brazil and South Africa — took important steps toward building or expanding nuclear weapons capabilities since mid-1983, it said.

The United States has not achieved its aim of "persuading Pakistan to forego continued development of nuclear arms" by providing it with substantial conventional military assistance, said the report authored by Carnegie Senior Associate Leonard S. Spector.

"With Pakistan now virtually in possession of a nuclear weapons capability... the long-term outlook for continued Indian restraint appears unpromising... and if further Indian tests are conducted it is hard to imagine that Pakistani President Zia Ul-Haq would hold back from a similar course," it added.

India, which exploded what it described as a peaceful nuclear device in 1974, has held no tests since then but has brought a test site to readiness and "now has both a small stockpile of nuclear-weapons-usable plutonium not subject to International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) safeguards, and operating facilities that could greatly increase the supply of this nuclear weapons material in the next several years," Mr. Spector said.

Reagan, Mondale continue attacks a week before polls

WASHINGTON (R) — In increasingly bitter campaigning for the U.S. presidency, democratic candidate Walter Mondale has lashed out at Ronald Reagan's human rights policies and the president has condemned Mr. Mondale's economic record.

Mr. Mondale's running mate Geraldine Ferraro joined the fray, accusing Mr. Reagan Monday of lying and cynically exploiting religious issues.

Public opinion polls continued to predict victory for Mr. Reagan in the Nov. 6 election. But Ms. Ferraro said those polls were not measuring the poor people's and women's votes which she said would beat Mr. Reagan.

Mr. Mondale launched his attack on Mr. Reagan Monday in Portland, Oregon, saying, "When this crowd took over, they dumped human rights as a foreign policy priority."

Across the country in West Virginia, Mr. Reagan attacked Mr. Mondale's economic record, linking the Democrat to what he called "the killer inflation" of President Carter's administration, in which Mr. Mondale was vice president.

Noting Mr. Mondale had used the words "trust me" last week, Mr. Reagan said: "The last time we trusted his administration they took five economic plans and nearly tripled inflation."

A new opinion poll conducted by Lou Harris for National Public Radio showed Mr. Reagan favoured by 58 per cent of those pol-

led to 41 per cent for Mr. Mondale, a 17 percentage point lead.

President Reagan picked up the endorsements of the Chicago Tribune, the New York Daily News and the Miami Herald, and Mr. Mondale won the backing of the New York Times, the Philadelphia Inquirer and the Washington Post.

The newspapers were among those that announced their presidential favourites in their weekend editions and on Oct. 29.

The Chicago Tribune said that despite its misgivings about Mr. Reagan's foreign and domestic policies, it backed Mr. Reagan because his philosophy "will result in less government growth and less government intrusion into the lives of citizens... than would Walter Mondale's."

The New York Daily News said, "by almost all standards, we are better off than we were four years ago."

In support of Mr. Mondale, the New York Times said millions have been thrown out of work in payment for economic recovery, also citing Mr. Reagan's "mostly ineffective" and "dangerous" diplomacy.

The Washington Post said that "much of the Reagan administration accomplishment has come very dear — and most important of all, its two principal claimed accomplishments, one foreign, the other economic, seem questionable to us, or at least greatly overstated."

Bolivian president ends hunger strike

LA PAZ (R) — Bolivian President Hernan Siles Zuazo ended a four-day hunger strike Tuesday after the Roman Catholic Church offered to mediate an accord with his political opponents.

Mr. Siles Zuazo, 71, stopped eating on Thursday, one day after parliament ordered an inquiry into a meeting last year between "cocaine king" Roberto Suarez Gomez and the head of the anti-narcotics council, Rafael Otazo.

Opposition parliamentarians accused Mr. Siles Zuazo of authorising the meeting, a charge he denied.

The leftist president told members of the ruling Popular Democratic Union (UDP) who gathered at the presidential palace

Tuesday night to pray for his health that the fast accomplished its initial aim of creating a climate of reflection and peace.

He said the Bolivian episcopal conference had submitted proposals for reaching an accord between all groups which would help the country to unite in facing its grave problems.

Mr. Siles Zuazo, who took office two years ago after 18 years of military rule, was kidnapped and held captive for 10 hours at the end of June in a failed coup attempt.

Mr. Siles Zuazo said when he announced the hunger strike that the parliamentary resolution setting up the drugs inquiry was designed to blackmail him.

His doctor, Guillermo Calderon, told reporters Tuesday the president was showing signs of exhaustion after taking only water during his fast.

On Friday troops started a sweep of three ranches in eastern Bolivia owned by Suarez Gomez and said Tuesday they had arrested four drug traffickers.

Suarez Gomez said in a newspaper advertisement Monday that the troops intended to kill him in an attempt to cover up evidence of official involvement in the cocaine trade.

He said in the advertisement that the president's hunger strike aimed at stopping the inquiry into his meeting with Mr. Otazo.

U.S. envoy gives assurances to Hong Kong

SAN FRANCISCO (R) — The American Consul General in Hong Kong, Burton Levin, said Tuesday he expected the U.S. government would recognise travel documents issued to residents after the territory reverts to Chinese control in 1997.

He also said it was unlikely any change would occur in U.S. immigration laws that would be "detrimental" to people in Hong Kong.

Noting that the issue of Hong Kong residents' right to travel abroad after 1997 was a sensitive one, Mr. Levin said: "I do not foresee that there will be any problems with U.S. recognition (of Hong Kong travel documents)."

In an address here to the World Affairs Council, a non-partisan public affairs forum, he said the U.S. government, in cooperation with China and Britain, would provide assistance to maintain

Hong Kong's participation in international bodies.

The consul general gave almost unqualified approval for the Sino-British declaration setting out arrangements for Hong Kong after 1997, when Britain's lease on most of the territory expires.

However, Mr. Levin added: "Though admirably comprehensive, the agreement does not provide complete answers to each and every issue that may arise."

Mr. Levin said Hong Kong was looking increasingly attractive to American investment, and he cited the lowering of property and operating costs from the astronomical levels of 1981.

"We expect the American business communities, both in the United States and Hong Kong, will see in this agreement good reason for maintained confidence

in the future of Hong Kong as an attractive and thriving commercial centre," he said.

He added that while most people in Hong Kong had welcomed the agreement, there was continued anxiety below the surface.

"People are conscious that much work — difficult work — lies ahead," he said. The unease stemmed from the abrupt changes in China's policy in the past, including the radical experiments of the great leap forward in 1958 and the 1966-76 Cultural Revolution, Mr. Levin said.

But China's successes in modernising the economy were bringing fundamental and irreversible changes, he said. San Francisco has the largest Chinese community outside Asian cities, and recent months have seen a rise in the number of overseas Chinese coming here.

Jakarta blast kills at least 15

JAKARTA (R) — An exploding ammunition magazine in the south of the Indonesian capital Monday night killed at least 15 people, sent thousands fleeing from their homes and brought an appeal for calm from the military, estimating the cause of a fire which sparked the blasts. Diplomats said it could have been accidental but did not rule out sabotage.

The Jakarta Garrison Commander, Major-General Try Sutrisno, said in a televised broadcast Tuesday evening that 15 people had been killed and 26 injured. He told Jakartans not to panic and to be wary of misinformation in the wake of the explosions.

Gen. Sutrisno updated an earlier count given by Information Minister Harmoko, who said 13 people died and 22 were injured. Gen. Sutrisno said the latest toll was as of 1500 local time (0700 GMT), leaving open the possibility of another upward revision.

Mr. Harmoko said marines at the base in south Jakarta initially tried to put out the fire but they and firemen were driven back when ammunition started to explode.

The inferno lit the night sky for more than five hours with a barrage of rockets and shells.

The explosions forced an exodus of panic-stricken residents, the evacuation of a hospital and fears among foreigners that a battle had broken out.

Houses around the base were flattened, shop shutters blown in and windows shattered up to three kilometres away.

Firefighters initially evacuated people within a 2.5 kilometres radius of the magazine, but widened it to three then five kilometres Mr. Harmoko told a press conference.

The devastation followed four bomb attacks, numerous bomb threats and two major fires in Jakarta in the past month.

"It might be an accident but the proximity of events forces the question — couldn't it be a little more than coincidence?" one diplomat told Reuters.

Another said it could merely have been caused by too shoddy safety procedure or bad storage. A fire also broke out there in July but was contained.

No group has claimed responsibility for this month's fires and bombings, but police are interrogating 13 suspects arrested after the bombing of two banks and a shop on Oct. 4 in which two people were killed.

Jakarta has been nervous since clashes between troops and Muslims last month in which at least 18 people were killed.

Foreign embassies reported no expatriate casualties but said there had been several near misses.

A Japanese school had all its windows blown out and a large civilian hospital, evacuated at the height of the explosions, was damaged.

The dump contained artillery shells, tracers and rockets, many of them old and Soviet-designed. An artillery shell that crashed into an Australian aid worker's unoccupied bedroom was identified by a Western military sit-

ache as Soviet-designed and of a type used by the Indonesian military before 1965.

Diplomats said some ammunition stored in the dump was known to be "old and probably unstable."

An army spokesman speaking on the radio in the early hours said the magazine went off at about 9.30 Monday night and that an area one kilometre in radius around the magazine had been evacuated. He appealed to residents to remain calm.

The army spokesman did not give the cause of the explosions in his terse statement.

Scores of evacuated or fleeing families, some with suitcases and wrapped in brightly-coloured sarongs, wandered aimlessly around south Jakarta until well after midnight.

Police told them through loud speakers not to panic and to stay out of the arsenal area while armoured cars fitted with heavy machine guns patrolled the streets.

Ambulances took casualties to nearby hospitals.

Marines watching their base burn from safety about one kilometre away said that buildings around the magazine had been devastated and that several army vehicles were wrecked. Every few minutes another blast occurred.

Firemen watched helplessly. It was impossible to approach the dump because of the dangers posed by the live ammunition. They crouched with the marines when a shell appeared to come too close.

'Baby Fae' taken off critical list

LOMA LINDA, California (R) — Doctors have defended their decision to transplant a baboon's heart into a two-week-old girl.

Some surgeons criticised the operation, saying no effort was made to find a human heart. The girl, known only as "baby Fae," received the baboon's heart in a five-hour operation on Friday.

But members of the surgical team which performed the operation said Monday that "baby Fae" could have died within days without her new heart. She was born with the left side of her heart undeveloped.

A spokeswoman at Loma Linda Hospital said Monday that "baby Fae" had been taken off the critical list and said her new heart was working well.

"Baby Fae is doing very well," the spokeswoman said. "Her condition has been upgraded from critical to serious and her vital signs are stable. She is breathing easily and the heart is working well."

Amid the row over the operation, the director of an Organ Procurement Agency, Dr. Paul Terasaki, said a human heart was available on the day of the operation.

A transplant expert at Stanford School of Medicine in California, Dr. Randall Morris, said there was no way at present that a baboon's heart could provide as good a match as a human heart.

Filipino generals under fire for supporting Ver

MANILA (R) — Philippine military commanders came under fire Wednesday for proclaiming their loyalty to Armed Forces Chief Gen. Fabian Ver, implicated in a plot to kill opposition leader Benigno Aquino.

Opposition politicians and leading newspapers condemned a full-page advertisement in a Sunday newspaper in which 68 generals, including heads of the army, navy and air force, declared their "unwavering loyalty" to Gen. Ver.

The Acting Armed Forces Chief, Lieutenant-General Fidel Ramos who took over the command after Gen. Ver went on leave to defend himself, did not sign the pledge of loyalty.

One of the men on the list Tuesday dissociated himself from the manifesto. He said in letters to Manila newspapers that he had not authorised his name to be included.

Brig. Gen. Ramon Farolan said: "While I hold Gen. Fabian Ver in deep affection, I do not believe that this is the time or the occasion for such a manifesto."

Four members of a five-member commission that probed Sen. Aquino's murder at Manila Airport last year said Gen. Ver and 25 others were indictable for the pre-meditated killing. The former senator was an old rival of President Ferdinand Marcos.

Opposition leader Salvador Laurel said Gen. Ramos, Gen. Ver's deputy, should be named permanent military chief to preclude any possibility of a military coup.

Eva Estrada Kalaw, an opposition member of parliament, praised Gen. Ramos for not signing the pledge, which she described as "a stark and outright def-

iance of Gen. Ramos' call for restoration of the integrity and honour of the military."

Columist Enrique Fausto said in Metro Manila Times: "The 68 generals could have done themselves, Gen. Ver and the country better service if they had kept their sentiments to themselves."

The pro-government Times journal said the generals could have saved the armed forces embarrassment and added: "Loyalty is not exhibited through signed manifestos."

Diplomats noted that some of the 68 generals were close to retirement and probably owed their position to Gen. Ver. They said it was significant Gen. Ramos had not signed the pledge which affirmed "total and unqualified support" for Gen. Ver.

The diplomats said they were also puzzled by reports of a 20,000-man vigilante group within the military calling itself "El Diablo" (the devil). They said it indicated factionalism in the armed forces.

Gen. Ramos, who has called for the crushing of Communist guerrillas, secessionist rebels, private armies and crime syndicates, ordered an investigation into the reports.

Identical reports published Monday in the Bulletin Today and Metro Manila Times said the existence of the group was causing concern within the armed forces.

The reports said the group was set up two years ago and was registered last year with securities and exchange commission as a "brotherhood of crime busters."

GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN
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THE POWER OF THE LEAD

DEAR READERS: We have had many requests over the years for those hands that we consider to be our favorites. That makes quite a list. For the time being, therefore, we are devoting the Sunday column to a series of famous hands. At the end of the series, we will go back to our weekly question and answer column.

Both vulnerable. West deals.

NORTH
♦ AK
♥ 3
♦ AQ10873
♠ A976

WEST EAST
♦ QJ10 ♠ 863
♦ AKQ98 ♥ 7
♦ 5 ♦ KJ962
♦ KQ104 ♠ J832

SOUTH
♥ 97542
♥ J106542
♦ 4
♠ 5

The bidding:
West North East South
1♥ Dble Pass 1♠
2♠ 2♥ Pass Pass
Dble Pass Pass 2♥
Dble Pass Pass Pass
Opening lead: ?

How would you like to be West and find the opponents ending up at the two-level in the suit you opened? You have almost got 100 honors in the suit, and some goodies besides. You double quietly — no need to frighten the opponents into some better spot.

Naturally, you are delighted when the opponents

rest in two hearts doubled. What is your opening lead? It might seem that it makes no difference — it is simply a matter of how large the penalty will be. At any rate, that is what West thought when he held these cards in a team match at the 1967 North American Championships. He could see no harm in starting with the king of clubs, to begin setting up some tricks in the side suits.

The declarer way back then was Ron Vander Porten of San Francisco. His partner had made a takeout double of one heart rather than an overall of two diamonds because he thought his hand was too strong for a mere overall. Thereafter, North-South were wriggling for a way out.

Declarer won the opening lead of the king of clubs in dummy and ruffed a club in hand. He cashed the ace-king of spades and ruffed another club. A spade ruff in dummy, the ace of diamonds and another club ruff brought declarer's total to eight and West was left with the last five tricks — all winning trumps.

By now, you will have seen that there is only one way to defeat the contract — West must lead a high trump. That stops dummy from scoring a ruff with the three of trumps, and declarer can come to no more than seven tricks. But even that would be a poor reward for East-West. At the other table, their counterparts made three no trump with the help of an end play.

COLUMN

Mother charged with killing daughter in oven

AUBURN, Maine (R) — A mother of two and her boyfriend were charged with burning the woman's four-year-old daughter to death in an oven. Cynthia Palmer, 29, and her boyfriend, John Lane, 36, were ordered to be held in custody at a preliminary hearing and are to undergo psychiatric examination. The couple were charged with the death of Palmer's daughter Angela, whose body was found Saturday in the family's oven after neighbours heard a child screaming, "let me out. Please let me out."

U.S. executes 2 murderers

HUNTSVILLE, Texas (R) — Two men were executed in American state prisons Tuesday for murder. Thomas Barefoot, 39, who escaped four previous dates with the executioner, was injected with poison here for murdering a Texas policeman six years ago. Earnest Knighton, 38, died in the electric chair in Angola, Louisiana, for killing a petrol station worker he was trying to rob in 1981.

Quake hits parts of Philippines

MANILA (R) — An earthquake shook parts of Mindanao Island in the southern Philippines Tuesday but an earthquake centre spokesman said the shock was unlikely to cause much damage. He said the epicentre was about 100 miles offshore under the Mindanao Sea. Reports from the area were sketchy and he could not say how long the tremor lasted. The U.S. Geological Survey in Golden, Colorado, said it measured the quake at 6.5 on the Richter Scale.

Children seek end to arms race

UNITED NATIONS (R) — A delegation of children Monday presented the United Nations with a petition signed by 13,000 children from all over the world calling for an end to the nuclear arms race. The petition was handed to a senior U.N. official by a 13-year-old American girl, Camilla Taylor, who said: "We would like to prove to adults how much we know and care about this issue. Sometimes we feel that the most powerful leaders in the world don't deal with our futures as seriously as we would like them to... we hope that by bringing our petition to this world organisation our voices may be heard."

Strong quake hits Soviet republic

MOSCOW (R) — A strong earthquake struck the Soviet Central Asian Republic of Tadzhikistan last week, seriously injuring people and destroying buildings, a Soviet newspaper reported Tuesday. The Young Communist daily, Komsomolskaya Pravda, said the quake last Saturday measured seven points on the 12-point Soviet scale. Reference books describe this as "very strong." "At the epicentre buildings were destroyed," the newspaper said, adding that food and emergency aid had been sent to Dzhrigatel, the worst affected town.

Actress 'forced to appear nude'

BOSTON (AP) — Vanessa Redgrave was so destitute after the Boston Symphony Orchestra cancelled six of her performances in 1982 that she was forced to appear nude in a movie to pay the bills, the actress testified Monday in the trial of her \$5-million lawsuit against the orchestra. "They would only give me the job if I appeared naked. I had to agree to it," she said of the unreleased 1983 film, "Steaming." Miss Redgrave said the film producers later agreed to show her nude only from the back as she jumped into a hot tub. She said she earned \$100,000 for the role. The 47-year-old British actress is suing the orchestra in U.S. district court, claiming her appearances were cancelled because of her outspoken alliance with the Palestine Liberation Organisation. She said the "blacklisting" violated her civil rights and cost her work for 14 months. Miss Redgrave, the star of the films Julia and The Bostonians, had been hired by the orchestra to narrate Stravinsky's "Oedipus Rex" in April 1982.